GAZETTEER OF INDIA

MADHYA PRADESH

WEST NIMAR



Maheshwarghat with Ahilya Devi's Chhatri

MADHYA PRADESH DISTRICT GAZETTEERS

WEST NIMAR

By
P. N. SHRIVASTAV

DISTRICT GAZETTEERS DEPARTMENT
MADHYA PRADESH
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PREFACE

West Nimar is the fifth Gazetteer to be published in the revised District series, the earlier four being Gwalior, Sagar, Jabalpur and East Nimar.

The final stages of work on West Nimar district were completed by the end of 1966. The draft-gazetteer was despatched to the Government of India and the members of the State Advisory Board in the beginning of 1967. The Government of India sent their suggestions and approval early in 1968. The State Advisory Board met on the 27th February, 1969 and approved the amended draft of the Gazetteer. It was on the 25th May, 1969 that the press-copy of the West Nimar Gazetteer was handed over to the press.

A word in the context of the preparation of Gazetteers. Sixty years ago, life had a smooth near-static flow. Hardly any ripple of external force was noticeable. The passage of a year or a decade meant little in the millenium of continuity and rarely disturbed the tranquillity of social and economic life. The even tenor of life continued in a gentle and secure course. Only a famine or a war left its impact on the face of the land, only leading to a quick reversion to the former pattern. The old Gazetteers were written in such idyllic conditions.

After a lapse of about half a century, the revision of gazetteers was taken up. An elaborate machinery was set up for the work. The State Editor looks back wistfully on the halcyon days when the newly established Gazetteers Department had the time and the opportunity for concentrating with a cool and collected mind on such a research-based academic work. Allowing for some margin of dilatoriness, inevitably brought about through non-prescription of a rigid schedule, the process had its own inimitable advantage. The officers patiently and with a dogged determination pursued correspondence, tried to collect full information, checked, re-checked and cross-checked the data, took pains over presentation and submitted an organically sound draft to the State Editor. The authenticity and the form of such a work had its own merit.

On the other hand, this leisurely process has a serious drawback. In an age of planning in a Welfare State, the march of events is not only fast but complex. The shape of things undergoes an unrecognisable change in quick succession. What was true in the immediate past, becomes outmoded and unrealistic in the context of transformed position in the current year. The sands of premises shift and the whole fabric totters to its foundations. The finely

textured *arras*-pattern, woven through quiet labour and loving care, assumes distorted lines and wrong curves. Love's labour is lost. What remains is a historical treatise true only to the past.

This is exactly the dilemma of gazetteer-writing. One cannot afford either to waddle ponderously or be goaded into a swift double march. In the first case, the wayfarer is likely to mince in time with the panoramic beauty of the landscape, while in the second case, the breath-taking hurry to reach the destination is so overpowering that there is every possibility of his falling a victim to the lurking pit-falls on the way. It is extremely difficult to steer clear of danger on either side and follow the golden middle path. This ever remains a consummation devoutly wished for but rarely attained for the simple reason that the straight, narrow path is nothing short of a tight rope-walking. The exigency and the ideal are difficult to harmonize in the work of this nature.

The State Editor does not claim any immunity from the imperfections involved in such a stupendous work. It has been his endeavour to combine some thoroughness with a certain pace. But the very fact that the whole process of preparation of West Nimar Gazetteer, from alpha to omega, covered a span of nearly eight years—when work was simultaneously being done also on the drafts of several other districts—exposes the epitome to inescapable drawbacks. The machinery set up for the gazetteers work aims at quality through multiple-scrutiny. The components of this machinery are Departmental work, the Central Government of India Gazetteers Unit, the State Advisory Board, and on the technical side, stencilling, cyclostyling and printing. Each component takes a certain amount of time to function properly, and the aggregate period required for the completion of work at all stages runs into years. None can help it. Making the best of a difficult situation, the State Editor commends this volume to an understanding public.

West Nimar District is not without points of special interest. Of late, it has been a scene of wide-spread excavations carried out by Prof. H. D. Sankalia. The excavations at Maheshwar and Navdatoli have revealed a broad sequence of cultures from the Early Stone Age up to the eighteenth century A. D. The foundations of Mahishmati, identified with modern Maheshwar, were laid around 1000 B. C. The people who colonised this tract used a beautiful, wheel-turned painted pottery, indicating some foreign influence. The *Mahabharat*, the Puranas and other works tell us that the region round Mahishmati was inhabited by the Karkotaka Nagas, who were driven out by Haihaya king Sahasrarjun. The explorations at Barwani, Un, Riverkhedi, etc., also yield important finds. Kasrawad contains early Buddhist relics. Mahishmati appears to have been before Buddha's time the capital of Southern Avanti, while Ujjayini was the capital of Northern Avanti, rendered immortal by Bhasa's *Swapna Vasavadatta* and *Priyadarshika*.

In the early Hindu period, this region came under the sway of a number of dynasties like the Pradyota, Nanda, Maurya, Sung, Satavahan, Kardamaka,

Abhir, Gupta, Huna, Kalachuri, Chalukya, Rashtrakuta, Gurjara-Pratihara and Paramara. There were wars, annexations and devastations. In the medieval period this part of the land was traversed and held by Iltutmish, Malik Kafoor, Khiljis and Sultans of Malwa. Raja Bija built the famous fort of Bijagarh. Akbar conquered the region in 1562. Faruquis too held sway here. The cenotaph at Raver proclaims to eternity the greatness of Bajirao I. Pindaris ravaged this District incessantly. The Bhils also came down from their hilly fastnesses and carried booties. This District contains Barwani—one of the oldest Hindu states in the country.

The preliminary chapters of the West Nimar District Gazetteer were compiled by Shri M. L. Tiwari, Shri K. A. S. Bais, Shrimati Namita Sen, Shri R. C. Munje and Shri T. S. Sarma. Editing was done by Shri S. D. Guru, Shri Vishnu Saran, Shri M. M. Muley, Shri P. K. Bhatnagar, Shri R. R. Jain, Shri R. K. Shrivastava and Shri M. P. Dubey.

Shri S. D. Guru, Assistant State Editor, shouldered the responsibility of seeing the production through at all stages. Dr. R. K. Jain supervised the preparation of press-copies. Proofs were read, along with others, by Shri K. R. R. C. Nair, Shri R. K. Naik, Shri V. K. Jain, Shri K. S. Sharma and Shri A. M. Sharma. Shri R. C. Munje prepared the Bibliography. Shri S. M. Rastogi was in charge of Appendices. Shri Nawal Kishore compiled the Index. Maps were prepared by Shri Yaduraj Singh under the supervision of Shri Narbada Prasad Pandey. Errata were prepared by Shri M. M. Muley. Shri K. R. R. C. Nair carried out the duties of the Press-Officer in his characteristic efficient manner.

For photographs, which form an important section of the Gazetteer, the State Editor is grateful to Prof. H. D. Sankalia, Poona; Superintending Archaeologist, Temple Survey Project (North), Bhopal; Superintendent, Archaeological Survey of India, Central Circle, Bhopal; Director, Information and Publicity, Madhya Pradesh; Director of Archaeology and Museums, Madhya Pradesh; and Shri Digambar Jain Tirtharaksha Samiti, Indore.

The State Editor will be failing in his duties if he does not gratefully acknowledge the help given by the Gazetteers Unit, Ministryof Education and Youth Services, Government of India, New Delhi. He received most valuable suggestions from them for the improvement of the draft. He is particularly obliged to Dr. P. N. Chopra for the personal interest he has taken in the work.

The printing of West Nimar Gazetteer was carried out satisfactorily by the Modern Printery, Ltd., Indore.

P N Shrivastav

BHOPAL:
27th June, 1970

(P. N. SHRIVASTAV)
State Editor

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CHAPTER I

GENERAL

Nimar (West) District, with its head-quarters at Khargone, occupies a part of Madhya Pradesh in the south-west. It forms, together with Nimar (East), the southern boundary of Indore Commissioner's Division. It is located between the latitude 21° 22′ North and 22° 35′ North and between the longitude 74° 25′ East and 76° 14′ East. The Tropic of Cancer passes some 63 miles (101.43 Km.) beyond the northern most point of the District. Physically the District is a central section of the Narmada Valley with the bordering Vindhyan scarp in the north and the Satpura ranges in the south.

The District has a triangular span with its vertex, the farthest angle lying to the west. The meandering outline of the boundary resembles, roughly to that of a pigs head facing west. The east-west elongation runs for about 225 miles (362 Km.) while the north-south width measures about 170 miles (273 Km.) in the eastern part. According to State Survey Department the area of the District is 3,751.4 sq. miles (9,716.1 Km.).[1] The population of the district is 990,464 according to the Census of 1961.

The District, together with the adjoining district of Nimar (East), derives its name from the old division of Prant Nimar which comprised the whole Narmada valley from the Ganjal river on the east to the Hiranphal or 'Deers leap' on the west, in both of which places the Vindhyan and the Satpura ranges run down to the river. The length of the intervening valley is about 225 miles (362.2 Km.) and its width about 40 miles (64.4 Km.). Nothing is known about the origin of the name of Prant Nimar. The name, Nimar, is supposed to have been derived from *nim*, half, as the Prant was supposed to be half way down the course of the Narmada, but in reality it is much nearer the mouth than the source of the river. Another derivation, suggested by the then Deputy Commissioner C G. Leftwich[2] and in vogue, is from the *nim* tree (*Azadiratcha indica*) which is very common in both the districts of Nimar (East) and Nimar (West), to provide *Aad*, the cover, from a distant view. Some people conclud that Prant Nimar (pronounced as *Nimad*) derived its name after the town Nemawar (pronounced

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1. West Nimar District Census Handbook, 1961, p. 3. However, the State Survey Department revised these figures in 1962-63 as 5,178 Sq. miles; *see* ibid., p. XXXV. According to the Surveyor General of India the area of the District is 5,206 Sq. miles (13,483.5 Sq. Km.)

2. Nimar District Gazetteer, 1908, Vol. A, p. 1.

as Nemawad) which in the Hindu period was the capital of Prant Nimar[1], and which is located now in Dewas district on the northern bank of the Narmada, opposite Handia. In some early records of the Muslim authors, it has been pronounced as *Nimaur*. In Puranic literature Nemawar is spoken of as Nabhapuri and the hillock near by, now called Gwal Tekri, is mentioned there as Mani Gir. The earliest historical reference to Nemawar is made by Rashid-ud-din, quoting Al-Biruni, who accompanied Mahamud of Ghazni and travelled over much of Central India.

The District is bounded on the north by Dhar and Indore districts, on the south by Jalgaon (East Khandesh) and Dhulia (West Khandesh) districts of Maharashtra, on the east by the District of Khandwa (East Nimar) and on the west, again by Dhulia (West-Khandesh) district of Maharashtra State. The north-eastern boundary, for a short distance, merges with that of Dewas District. The northern and the eastern boundaries are the inter-district boundaries but the southern and the western boundaries are inter statal boundaries. For most of its length the district boundary is alineated with the natural features. The northern boundary runs along the watershed line of the Vindhyan scarp, the Great Narmada and certain of its tributary streams. For most of its parts the southern boundary is formed of the Aner river and Manial nala which drain into the Tapti. A part of western boundary is formed by the Jharkal river, a tributary to the Narmada from the south. Only the eastern margin, by and large, can be called to be an artificial demarcation.

The District head-quarters is best approachable by road from Khandwa (54 miles or 87 Kilometres) in the east, Dhar (81 miles or 131 Kilometres) and Indore (86 miles or 138 Kilometres) enroute Khalghat in the north, and Dhulia (106 miles or 170 Kilometres) and Manmad (160 miles or 258 Kilometres) in the south-west. The only railway line passing through the eastern parts of the district is the Khandwa-Indore section of the metre gauge line of the Western Railways. The important railheads within the District are Barwaha and Sanawad.

History of the District as an Administrative Unit

Nimar (West) District lies in a tract which has always been, historically important for its being on the easiest natural route that connects the northern and the southern parts of India. Most parts of the District were included, at different times, in the kingdoms of the early Haihayas of Mahismati (now supposed by most scholars as Maheshwar), the Parmars of Malwa and the Ahirs, Farukis and Chauhans of Asirgarh. During the Fifteenth Century it was held by the Mohammadan kings of Mandu till it fell to Bahadur Shah of Gujarat in 1531. It fell to Akabar with Malwa in 1562. Nimar was included by Akbar in the *Subah* of Malwa, its territories being divided among the three *Sarkars* of Bijagarh, Handia and Mandu. The greater part of the District lay in the Bijagarh *Sarkar*,

1. Ibid., p. 20.

the administrative headquarters being at the town of Jalalabad (21° 42′ N.; 75° 25′ E.), situated at the foot of the Bijagarh fort. During the rule of Aurangzeb most of Nimar was included in the *Subah* of Aurangabad.[1] The First Nizam of Hyderabad, however, secured control of Nimar in 1720, and continued to keep it under himself even after he had ceased to be the Governor of Malwa, though technically and administratively it was still supposed to be a part of the Suba of Malwa. Under Nizam Asaf Jah, from 1720 to 1740, and also for about eleven years of the Maratha rule, the seat of the administration in the local Bijagarh *Sarkar* continued to be at Bijagarh until 1751. In this year Ramchandra Ballal Bhuskute was placed as *Subahdar* at Khargone incharge of the tract along with the *Watan* of *Sar-Mandloi* of Bijagarh.

The Peshwa could manage to get hold of the fort of Bijagarh in 1740, the southern Nimar in 1752 and the rest of the District by 1755. The District then contained 32 *mahals* either administered or held nominally by the Peshwa. Of these, 14 *mahals* were given in *Jagir* to Holkar, and Barwani, and Dhar chiefs and others in 1761. The territories in possession with Holkar in this part were Sendhwa and Nagalwadi. In 1778, the Peshwa's territory in Nimar roughly corresponding to the old Moghul *Mahal* of Banswa or Basina was sub-divided and bestowed by the Peshwa in *Jagir* on the Maratha leaders Holkar, Sindhia and Powar of Dhar except the treacts of Kasrawad, Kanapur and Beria (Beria *pargana*), held partly in order that their revenues might be devoted to the upkeep of Baji Rao's tomb at village Raver and partly to have a control over the passes and fords leading to Malwa. Silam or Selani *pargana* was granted to Sindhia while Sanawad *pargana* to Holkar.

Kasrawad Pargana

After the Maratha War, in 1818, as a successor to the Peshwa, the British occupied the tracts of Kasrawad, Kanapur and Beria, but in 1868, Kasrawad was restored to Holkar.[2]

In 1823, by the Treaty of Gwalior, most of Sindhias Nimar[3] was placed under the British management. These were followed by the other territories in 1825[4], with exception of Burhanpur town and three villages attached to it. Over these territories the British sovereignty was confirmed in 1860 to last for another eighty seven years. During the British rule the territory remained under the Resident at Indore from 1823 to 1854. Thereafter it was under the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, till the year 1864. The direct management of the District, however, was entrusted to an officer, with headquarters at Mandleshwar. In 1864 Sindhia's territory in Nimar (West) became part of the Central Provinces. In 1868, the *taluks* of Kasrawad, Dhurgaon and Barwani were made

1. Indore State Gazetteer, 1908, p. 222.
2. Elliot and Dowson, History of India as told by its own Historians, Vol, VII, p. 490.
3. The parganas of Dhurgaon, Barwai, Selani, Punasa and Khandwa.
4. The parganas of Asir, Bhamgarh, Mundi, Bilora, Atod and Piplod.

over to Holkar in exchange for certain lands held by him in the Deccan and elsewhere. At this time Kasrawad was the headquarters of the District Officer of the British Nimar.

In 1868 Holkar divided his possessions in Nimar into two districts of Nimar (Khargone) and Mandleshwar. These were amalgamated in 1904, to form the District of Nimar (Holkars' Nimar) with its headquarters at Khargone, the total number of *parganas* having been reduced from sixteen to eleven. As a result of the reorganisation of the administrative divisions in 1904, the District was sub-divided into 8 *mahals* of Barwaha, Bhikangaon, Segaon, Nisarpur, Kasrawad, Khargone, Maheshwar and Sendhawa. After the merger of the Princely States into the Union of India and the formation of Madhya Bharat State on the 28th May 1948, the following territories were amalgamated to form the District of Nimar with its headquarters at Khargone.

1. The whole of Holkar's Nimar except the *Pargana* of Nisarpur, detatched from the main part of the District and lying north of the Narmada river
2. The whole of Barwani State with its four *parganas* of Anjad, Rajpur, Silawad and Pansemal
3. Thikri Tahsil (previously a district), lying south of the Narmada, of Dharampuri District of the Dhar State and
4. Bagaud and Pardia (Paldya) territory of Dewas State

The newly constituted District of Nimar (West) with its head-quarters at Khargone was sub-divided into eight administrative divisions, called the tahsils, *viz.*, Sendhwa, Rajpur, Barwani, Khargone, Bhikangaon, Kasrawad, Burwaha and Maheshwar.

The area and population of each tahsil is as follows[1].--

Tahsil	Area in 1951		Area in 1961		Population 1951	Population 1961
	Sq. miles	Sq. Km.	Sq. miles	Sq. Km.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1. Sendhwa	518	1,342	515	1,334	127,144	159,010
2. Rajpur	512	1,326	506	1,310	116,365	142,013
3. Barwani	253	655	270	698	82,833	105,368
4. Khargone	679	1,759	680	1,762	152,760	208,331
5. Bhikangaon	617	1,598	615	1,592	68,770	108,953
6. Kasrawad	388	1,005	388	1,005	64,281	82,367
7. Burwaha	450	1,165	467	1,211	86,534	111,112
8. Maheshwar	281	728	310	804	60,007	73,310
District Total	3,698	9,578	3,751	9,716	758,694	990,464

1. Census of India 1951 and 1961, respectively. The area figures are based on the Land Records Department.

The Kanapur and Beria tract[1] was transfered from Nimar (East) to Nimar (West) after the Re-organization of States effected on the 1st November, 1956. For the purposes of Police administration, the District is divided in the charges of the following Police-Stations.

Khargone, Barud, Un, Goganwa, Sendhwa, Khetia, Barala, Barwani, Silawad, Rajpur, Anjad, Bhikangaon, Jhirnia, Kasrawad, Mandleshwar, Maheshwar, Burwaha, Balawda, Sanawad, Balakwada, Thikri and Nagalwadi.

PHYSIOGRAPHY

Physically the District comprises three natural divisions. Parallel with the Narmada, lie the well-marked belts of the Narmada valley in the centre, the Satpura range along the southern and the western margins and the narrow belt of Vindhyan scarp along the northern boundary in the north-east.

The Narmada Valley

The Narmada valley consists of a tract, about 80 miles (128.8 Km.) long, from east to west and about 40 miles (64.4 Km.) wide from north to south, in this District. However, the plain gradually narrows down, west of Khargone and forms its western apex near Barwani. The major part of the valley lies south of the Narmada and is drained by the tributaries joining on the left bank, *viz.*, the Kharkia, the Kundi, the Satak, the Borad, the Deb, the Nahali, the Goi and the Jharkhal. Jaitgarh range, a low staggering range of the Satpuras encroaching from the south-east of Bhikangaon, separates the plain of Khargone from the Khandwa plain further east. The valley north of the Narmada covers a limited area, about one-eighth of its counterpart in the south. It is a narrow belt of lowlying country, about 15 miles (24.15 Km.) wide and about 50 miles (80.5 Km.) in length along the Narmada. This part is drained by several streams, flowing parallelly down from the Vindhyan scarps and ultimately joining the Narmada. Among these, the Karam, the Maheshwari, the Kholar, the Choral and the Kanar are of some significance. The general height of the plain is about 750 Ft. (228.6 metres) which slopes towards the axis of the Narmada, the Central line of the valley like a bowl of elliptical shape.

The valley south of the Narmada, slopes gradually and the country is undulating studded with domes and occasional low hills here and there. Generally speaking the valley is a rich tract of old alluvial deposits, intermixed at places and also at different levels of depth, with the sandy, gravelly or rocky soils, depending upon the proximity of the spurs of the Satpura and the history of the drainage in the area. The valley, north of the Narmada is narrow and is intersected by the ravines and deep streams which almost hop through the steep slopes of the Vindhyan range in the north. Although the northern part of the Narmada Valley is equally fertile and plain, its northern margin is damp, dissected and covered with forests.

1. Adjusted in the above table for the year 1961.

The Satpura Plateau

The Satpuras spread almost along the whole of the southern and western margins. The plateau above 1,000 Ft. (304.8 metres) covers nearly a third of the District. The general height is about 1,500 ft. (457.2 metres) above Mean Sea Level. The axis of the hill-range runs in a crescentic line quite close to the southern and western margins. The slopes are steeper up-hills. The hill-range scarps to the south and the west where as it is less steep to the north and the east directions. From near Bistan a subsidiary line of hills runs with Jalalabad, Bijagarh, Abhapuri and Bavangurj in the axis, parallel to the primary one. The two lines are separated by the narrow valley of River Goi tracking north-west. There are several parts and stretches of the Satpuras which are above 2,250 ft. (689.8 metres), both in their eastern and western sections. Even in the subsidirary range of the Satpura, the waterparting line runs all the way higher than 2,250 ft. (625.8 metres). The remarkable heights in the south-eastern part of the district are those of peaks rising to 3,073 ft. (936.65 metres), 2,854 ft. (869.98 metres), 2,823 ft. (860.45 metres) and 2,865 ft. (873.25 metres). The Tinshemali peak is 2,896 ft. (882.70 metres) high. East of Ambapani Chunki is the Lanka peak, 3,177 ft. (968.35 metres) high with other peaks nearly rising up to 2,659 ft. (810.46 metres) and 2,619 ft. (798.27 metres). The peaks of Jalalabad and Bijagarh are 2,619 ft. (798.27 metres) and 2,753 ft. (839.11 metres), respectively, with two other hills in the vicinity rising above 2,400 ft. (731.52 metres). South of Ramgarh fort we find the Tasdin peak at an elevation of 3,390 ft. (1,033.27 metres). Around Sendhwa the Satpuras lower down and provide a pass for the Bombay-Agra Road. The road itself is constructed on a route variously mentioned in the Buddhist literature and through which armies, traders and missionaries marched to and from the Deccan and the northern parts of India. In the western section there is Ramgarh fort, 2,772 ft. (844.91 metres) high and other three hills rising upto 3,277 ft. (998.83 metres), 3,151 ft. (960.42 metres) and 3,020 ft. (921.50 metres), respectively. A hill on the western boundary rises to 3,038 ft. (925.88 metres) andt he other to the north-east of Gaighat is 3,292 ft. (1,003.40 metres). Abhapuri and Bavangurj, east of the Goi river are 1,933 ft. (589.18 metres) and 2,102 ft. (640.69 metres), respectively.

The soil in the Satpura a region is very shallow except along the low gradient nullah banks and in the depressions. The boulders and gravels prevail almost every where with the result that agriculture exists only in patches. Almost all the ridges and upper slopes are covered with forests. Apart from the lower fringe of the plateau, adjoining the Narmada valley, where the slope is gradual, the cultivation and population concentrate, in this region, only in the narrow belts of the Goi, the Umari and the Aner Valleys. The forests in the western part are generally poor as compared to those in the east. The Umari and the Aner drain the southern slopes of the Satpura and form part of the Tapti river system.

The Vindhyan Scarp

The eastern section of the northern boundary is marked by the southern scarp of the Vindhyan plateau. The water parting line forming the boundary,

separates the tributary rills of the Narmada with the waters of the Chambal system. Only three tributary rivers of the Narmada, the Karam, the Choral and the Kanar take the waters of the area north of the crest line in Indore District. The Vindhyas, which are a gently sloping plateau in the north, overlook the Nimar (West) with an array of the high peaks almost abruptly scarping down to the Narmada Valley in the south and occupying only a belt of about 5 miles (8.05 km.). The Vindhyas rise above 2,000 ft. (609.60 metres) from the mean Seal Level. The holy temple of Jam Darwasa on the Chhota Jam hill is just on the northern boundary while Dhajari peak near Bara Jam in Indore District is 2,678 ft. (816 metres). Another peak in Indore north of Hindolagwari village is 2,429 ft. (740.36 metres) high. The hills and their slopes are all covered with forest but with poor soil.

DRAINAGE

Most of the District is drained by the Narmada drainage system. The Tapti drainage system extends in a limited area along the southern boundary of the District. Between these two systems, runs the water-shed line of the Satpuras, starting from the villages Badla and Mandwa in the south-east to Hindola Bara pass in the south-west.

The drainage lines of the Tapti system in this District are mere brooks and streams. The general direction of their flow is south-west. Aner Nala, which flows to the west forming the southern boundary, and collecting the waters of several small streams, is an exception to this. Umari Nala is another significant stream in this system. It flows through the alluvial deposits around Pansemal which is a part of the Tapti Valley.

The Narmada system represents, in this district, two major types of drainage lines. First of these is the fault zone lines consisting of the perennial trunk-line, Narmada itself, flowing much below the adjoining hard masses of the Vindhyas and the Satpuras. This is joined by hundreds of streams, rushing from a short distance in the silted valley and joining the Narmada at right angles. The second type is evolved in the old rocks of the Satpuras, well-eorded and uniformly drained by the network of gradually uniting streams which also ultimately tribute to the Narmada. On a map they figure like a tree with branches and are in a dendritic pattern. The drainage of Kundi and Goi Valleys are examples of this pattern.

The important rivers of the District are the Narmada, the Kundi, the Goi, the Bakar, the Karam and the Choral.

The Narmada

The magnificent river flows through the District in Barwaha, Maheshwar and Kasrawad tahsils for about 45 miles (72.45 Km.) and then for about 75 miles (121 Km.) along the district boundary in the north. It rises from the Amarkantak plateau (Lat. 22° 40′, Long. 81° 45′) of the Satpuras in Shahdol District. Taking a westerly course through the districts of Mandla, Seoni, Jabalpur, Narsimhapur, Hoshangabad, Raisen, Sehore, Dewas and Nimar (East) it touches the north-eastern boundary near Mandhata, a sacred river island. After about 10 miles

(16.10 Km.) it enters the District near Alibuzurg and Mortakka. After flowing for about 35 miles (56.35 Km.) past Mandleshwar and Maheshwar, it again forms the northern boundary of the District for nearly 75 miles (120.75 Kms.). The easiest crossings in the river are offered at Khalghat and Chikalda, in this section. The economic potentials of this river have not been tapped so far. Various technical problems arise out of its deep channel, stony bed, sudden and great fluctuation in the water-supply and rapid flow. Apart from the possible success of the 'Narmada Project' undertaken jointly by the Governments of Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Maharashtra, the River has not been so far utilised for the purposes of irrigation or the generation of hydro-electricity. A survey of the river for pisciculture is at hand with the Department of Fisheries, Government of Madhya Pradesh. The river is perennial and is navigable throughout the year between Mortakka and Maheshwar only, and for most part of the year, from below the Sahastradhara Falls to Haranphal. Numerous affluents join the stream in its course, the principal being Gomi, Jamner, Bagdi, Dhatuni, Chandkesar, Khari, Kanar, Choral, Kholar, Malan, Maheshwari, Karam and Hatni on the northern bank, and Bakut, Beda, Kundi, Satak, Borar, Deb and Goi on the southern bank. The Narmada was commonly considered to form the boundary between *Hindustan* and the *Deccan*, the reckoning of the Hindu year differing on either side of it. At numerous places on the course of the Narmada, and especially at spots where it is joined by another river, are groups of temples where annual gatherings of pilgrims take place. Every year a considerable number of pilgrims start to perform the *pradakshina* of the Narmada, *i.e.*, walk from its mouth at Broach (Bhadonch) to its source at Amarkantak on one side, and back on the other, which is regarded as a performance of the highest religious efficacy.

This river was known to ptolemy and the author of the periplus as the Nammados or Nammadius but is not noticed by Megasthenes. In Vedic literature, its name is not mentioned in the *Rig Veda*, nor does it find any place in the *Sutras* of Panini. The *Ramayana*, the *Mahbharata* and the Puranas, however, refer to it frequently. The *Rewa-Khand* of Vayu Puran and the *Rewa-Khand* of the Skanda Purana are the chapters devoted to the story of the birth of the Narmada and of which many legends are related. It is said to have sprung from the body of Lord Shiva, after the performance of great penance, in the *Riksha* Mountain (a part of the Vindhya), whence it acquired its great virtues. The legend further relates how the river was created in the form of a lovely damsel whose beauty captivated the gods and brought them all to her feet. Shiva laughed when he saw the enamoured gods and named her Narmada[1] or delight-giving in consequence.[2] This river is very often called the Rewa, a name derived, according

1. "*Tasyaschakre tato nama hasyadant "Bhavishyasi vara rohe saritshrestha tu-Narmada.*
"The holder of the trident(Lord Shiva) thense named her Narmada or the giver of amusement and said: 'Oh damsel of fine hips thou shall be known as Narmada, the Chief of rivers.

2. "*Swarupavasthito deva prapto hasya mato bhuvi*".
"*Narmada tena chokteyam su-shitala jala shiro.*"
"Since the God who was steady by nature was moved to laughter on the earth, this (river) auspicious and full of cool water, thence came to be known as Narmada.',

to the Puranas, from the leaping and hopping motion of her stream (from the root *rev*, to leap) through its rocky bed.[1]

In Central India this river is held to be far more sacred than any other stream in India. Even Ganga (the Ganges) herself is obliged to came and dip in these waters once a year. She comes in the form of a coalblack cow, but returns home pure white free from all sins. A sight of the Narmada is equivalent to a bath in the Ganges, and such are its virtues that all wells and tanks within about 30 miles (48.30 Km.) from its banks are endowed with powers of purification equal to those of the Great River itself.

To Shiva the river is specially sacred on account of its origin, and it is often called *Shankari* (*i.e.*, daughter of Shankar) and all the pebbles rolling on its bed are said to take the shape of his emblem, a well-known saying.—

Narmada ke kankar utte Shankar.

These *lingam* shaped stones, called *Banalinga*, are much sought after for daily worship by the Hindus.

The Kundi

This river is formed after the confluence of two streams, *viz.*, the Beda and the Kharak which rise from the Satpuras—respectively, from near Mandakhad and Ramgarh temple. Chainpur, Bamnala and Gagaon are located on the banks of the Beda while Khargone settles on the right bank of the Kharak. These rivers have a northerly flow and after the confluence, the Kundi joins the southern bank of the Narmada, south of Mandleshwar. Among the subsequent rivers in the District, it has the widest valley. The length of the Kundi, together with the Kharak is about 70 miles (112.70 Kms).

The Goi

The Goi is a long river rising from the southern slope of the Bijagarh fort hill and cutting its channel through the Satpuras. It meanders for over 75 miles (120.75 Km) to the north-west and joins the Narmada south of Nisarpur which is on the opposite northern bank. Sendhwa and Silawad are the important places along its course.

Springs, Wells, Tanks and Reservoirs

The rainwater partly sinks into the ground and the rest flows on the surface into the streams and rivers. The mineral springs and the level of undergroundwater on various geological formations have been discussed subsequently in this chapter. The water absorbed on a higher ground reappears seeping on the foot hills or along the vertical scratches created in the process of ravines and river channels formation Where the underground water forces out in the form of streams, the springs on the surface are marked andsometimes become celebrated. The 'Jalgaon-46-0'

1. "*Yatvamevasi plutagati reva namna bhavishyasi.*"
"Since you have a leaping motion you willl be named Reva.

topo-sheet of the Survey of India indicates a number of springs in the southern part of the district, in most of which area the Satpuras, covered with the Reserved forests, prevail. On the bed of the upper streams there are seven springs on the Beda river, five springs on the Kundi, three springs on the Kharak, two on the Borad, one on Chondri Nala and eleven on the Deb. The springs on the upper streams of the Kharak are near Ramgarh Fort, those on the Board are, one each near the villages of Chicholi and Lehaku. Six of the springs in the Deb drainage area are near the villages of Bada Salai, Singvi, Ghusgaon, Achhaldevi, Sitapuri and Sadla while there is one to the north-east of Bharvada and other four in the Dhaba forests.

Wells and tanks are comparatively small in number in the hilly and forested areas. In the plain region, parts of Khargone and Bhikangaon tahsils seem to have a larger number of wells. Apart from the reservoirs created across the streams, the number of tanks in the district is small. The important among them are Munshi-Ka-Talab, Virla tank, Ranjeet tank, Sirlai tank, Jamunia tank, Lachhera tank, Gagan Talab and Satak Band. Of these the Satak is the largest and most important.

Most of the dams across the streams have been built in the foot hill country north of the Narmada. The reservoirs at Asapur, Nazarpur, Sangi, Choli and Saraj (Mandleshwar) are in the Maheshwar Tahsil. The two reservoirs at Balwada and Gwari and the other two to the north and south-west of Bamanpuri are in Barwaha Tahsil. The reservoir near Beria south of the Narmada is also in Barwaha Tahsil. South of the Narmada there are reservoirs at Chichhi in Kasrawad Tahsil, Sajwai and Haribar in Rajput Tahsil and Dhabkhania in Khargone Tahsil. Short Irrigation Canals have been constructed from the Sajwai and Haribar reservoirs.

GEOLOGY*

The rock formations of the District include:—

Recent ..	.. 9. Alluvium
Pleistocene to Recent	.. 8. Laterite
Upper Cretaceous to Ecoene	.. 7. Deccan Traps and
	6. Inter-trappean beds
Upper Cretaceous ..	.. 5. Lameta beds
	4. Bagh Beds
Late Pre-cambrian to early Palaeozoic	.. 3. Vindhyan system.
Archaean ..	.. 2. Bijawar series.
	1. Granites and gneisses.

*Based on a note received from the Geological Survey of India.

1. Granites and Gneisses

Gneisses which are described as more of pink orthoclase, plagioclase and quartz with chlorite and horn blende, occur in the region of the Barwai and the Kanar river.

2. Bijawar Series

The Bijawar series comprises quartzites, limestones and breccia. The quartzite is sometimes a quartzite sandstone and in places becomes a soft unaltered sandstone. The limestone is usually banded with chert of hornstone or charged with tubular geode-like masses of this mineral. The breccia is massive, yellow or yellowish-brown in colour, consisting of a hornstone or jasper matrix. The Bijawar rocks near Barwai dip at 45 to 50 degrees to the west and in the region of Katkut the dip is 40 degrees to the NNW.

3. Vindhyan System

The most common constituent of this formation is a hard, compact, fine grained, purplish, rather thin bedded sandstone. White quartzites occur in places. Conglomerates occasionally extremely coarse, are not rare. Flags are by no means uncommon. Thinly stratified black or greyish black shales are met with especially towards the top of the systems. The sandstones and flags are generally micaceous, frequently very highly so. The rocks dip at moderate angles, gnerally towards the west and rest upon the granite gneisses or on the upturned edges of the Bijawarr ocks. The rocks in this region belong, it is probable, to the Rewah and Kaimur groups the Upper Vindhyan system.

4. Bagh Beds

The rocks of this group include the Nimar sandstones, cyster beds, nodular limestones and coralline limestones. The beds roll about very much owing to local dislocation.

The Nimar sandstones at Yelam (Yalam) are thin bedded, and fine grained. These have a strong resemblance to the Gondwana beds in the lithology and absence of fossils; but in view of the marked unconformity between these two groups and in view of the conformable sequence between the Nimar sandstones and cyster bed, it is probable that the latter two are of Lower Cretaceous age. The cyster bed at Ghatia, which is 0.5 metre (1.6 ft.) thick, is described as resting on the eroded surface of the sandstones. The species of oysters have been identified as *Ostreaea Leymerieid* orb, a form found in the Neocomian.

The nodular limestone is a whitish compact agriclaceous rock, though this lacks the peculiar nodular character in this District. Fossils are plentiful, and the thickness of the bed does not exceed 5 metres. The fossils are characteristic of Gault Horison.

The coralline limestone is yellowish or red in colour and consists chiefly of small fragments of bryozoa, shells, *etc.*, which on weathered surface are con-

spicuous. The freshly broken surface has a somewhat granular mottled appearance. On the strength of the fact that the two of the most characteristic forms of fossils occur in the Ariyalur division of the cretaceous system in Trichnopoly District, these limestones can be assigned the same age as the Ariyalur beds.

5. Lameta Beds

Near Barwai, occur some thick bedded, rather soft, white sandstones which show a strong resemblance to the Mahadeva rocks of the Gondwana system and like them contain no fossils except fragments of drift wood in abundance. These are overlain by the Deccan traps but in one or two cases, there intervenes an oyster bed (cretaceous system) of Bagh beds. In another small inlier ESE of Barwai, the Lameta beds with fresh-water shells separate the sandstones. There is apparent discordance between the sandstones and the Lameta beds. Near Katkut is a much larger out crop, composed of about 2.5 metres (8.95 ft.) of fine grained, shaly beds, red, pink or mottled, with ferruginous or carbonaceous concretions. At Katkut the basal beds pass insensibly into conglomerates and sandstones indistinguishable from the beds near Barwai. In most cases these beds lie upon the Bijawars but in one or two cases, rest directly on the Vindhyan sandstones. These beds at Barwai and Katkut have been shown to be of Lameta age.

6. Deccan Traps

The Deccan traps belong to the type called 'Plateau basalt' and are uniform in composition corresponding to dolerite or basalt. These are dark grey to dark greenish grey in colour. These traps are distinguished into vescicular and non-vescicular varieties. The non-vescicular types are hard, tough, compact and medium to fine grained and break with a conchoidal fracture. The vescicular types are comparatively soft and friable and break more easily. Numerous ash beds are common in the upper portion. Thickness of these rocks may be 1,200 metres.

7. Inter-Trappean Beds

Near Barwai, at Rupabani, is an inter-trappean bed which consists of limestones with shells of *cyprea* and *physa*. The shells in the top beds near the junction with the Traps, are considerably flattened.

8. Laterite

Laterite forms a cover on the Deccan traps in many places, which is of the vescicular type.

9. Alluvium

Under this are included the recent alluvium of the Narbada river valley region and the rich and fertile black cotton soil throughout the Deccan trap region formed as a result of the weathering of the basalts.

ECONOMIC MINERALS

Building Stones

The different rock types in this District yield excellent and durable building stones for construction. Basalt is found throughout the District and is used in building to a certain extent especially for the plinths of houses. It is, however, difficult to work owing to its excessive hardness. The granites may not find much use because the sandstones and lime-stones are available at a lesser cost. The Vindhyan sandstones, in particular the thin bedded flags, may form a useful stone. The Lameta sandstones at Barwai and Katkut have supplied a great deal of the material used for the construction of the former Indore State Railway. The sandstone is soft and durable, to be carved without difficulty and the ruins at Mandhata hill offer interesting examples of the durability of the rock and its suitability of elaborate carvings. The lower massive beds of the Nimar group should yield good building stones. The Bijawar limestone is too hard to be worked with ease. The coralline limestone is considered to be the best and most beautiful building stone of the District and has been used in the ancient buildings of Mandhata and other places.

Clays

The exposure of granite in the Kanar river near Kanar has altered to give rise to a gritty white clay at places. This occurrence is likely to yield considerable quantity of good quality clay after washing. The nodular limestone occasionally gives rise to soft marly material due to weathering in patches and pockets and is best exposed in the *nala* and road sections. This material is being used extensively as a local white-wash.

Glass Sands

The white fireable sandstones in the *nala* section south of Purakalan and Karondiakhera may form a source of quartz for glass manufacture.

Green Earth

Green earth occurs in the form of thin beds at Pipri Buzurg, Nukbera Pahar, Gaibera Pahar and Kansel. The beds are 1 to 3 metres (3.28 ft.—10.74 ft.) thick and from a few to 100 metres (328.08 ft.) long. The material is somewhat hard and appears to be good. The beds have, however, an overburden of weathered basalt.

Iron Ores

The only known metalliferous deposits are the rich hematites met with in the breccias, 4 to 5 metres thick, of the Bijawar series near Barwai. The remains of old workings show that the industry was once in a flourishing state. In 1860 Col. Keatinge attempted to revive the manufacture of steel but, although, the results were promising the work was never carried beyond the experimental stage. The results of analysis of a sample from here are—

$Fe_2.03$	180.44
FeO_3	0.90

SiO_2	16.77
FiO_2	0.02
S	01
P_2O_5	0.02 per cent.

Another sample was found to show 96.15 per cent, Fe_2O_3 and 2.92 per cent SiO_2.

Iron ores are also recorded at Andharibagh, Ghiklimadri, Karondia, Mendhikhaira and Nandhia.

Limestones

One of the important members of the Bijawar formation near Barwai is a dolomitic limestone. The limestone is usually banded with chert or hornstone. The bands increase in thickness towards the sufface; the masses of seggregated silica are thus occassionally associated with the limestone. The limestone in this region covers 240 hectares (539 acres) and the thickness may be 15 metres (49.21 ft.). It is estimated that 218, 450,000 tonnes of limestone with an average composition of 51. 50% CacO, 42% $MgCO_3$ and 6.50% insoluble matter, are available within a radius of a few kilometres from Barwai. The dolomitic limestone at Barjhar covers more than 1.3 sq. kilometres (0.51 sq. miles) and the exposures in the Kanar river and near about are much more extensive. Results of analyses of samples from the Choral and Kanar river sections are as follows.--

	Choral River	Kanar river
SiO_2	5.32	9.12
P_2O_5	3.02	2.07
CaO	30.01	30.21
MgO	19.87	18.26
Loss on ignition	41.50	37.94

Several occurrences of coralline limestone of high grade, are recorded from the western base of the Chatia scarp from about 0.93 mile (1½ kilometres) east of Nandnia, west of Agarwara, 2½ kilometres (1.5 miles) southeast of Agarwara, and between Yelam and Pirakalan. The limestone is granular and mottled and the thickness of the bed varies from a few to 4½ metres (14.76 ft.). A deposit of calc. tufa extends at the confluence of the Kanar river with the Satbhairon Nala for more than 200 metres (218.72 yards) in length and averages about 3 metres (9.34 ft.) in thickness. The following are the results of analysis of sample.--

$CaCO_3$	77.35
$CaSO_4$	0.22
$MgCO_3$	2.74
SiO_2	15.94
Iron Oxide	2.16
Al_2O_3	1.28
Alkalies	0.31 per cent.

Another sample gave 83.00% of $CaCO_3$. Calctufa is further recorded at Kalianpura, Wadgaon, Shindighatia, Dhabeodi, Umedra and Naklimata. The calctufa is burnt for lime on a small scale. Besides the above there is plenty of '*Kankar*' all over the country more especially where there is a thick soil-cover on the rocks.

Calcite veins in the Traps are found at Hirkira, Silwad, Vegalgaon, Budipahar, Chakia, Pati, Jalkhera, Yerwada, Matarkhund and Chichiwani and the total reserves from these are estimated at 25,000 tonnes 25,401,250 kilograms 56,000,108 pounds and av).

Manganese

In the region of Barwai, manganese oxides (Pyrolusite psilomelane psilomdane and wad) occur as irregular detached pockets and lenses in the Bijawar breccia at Barel, at a point on the Kanar river in a small tributary to the Kanar river (about 5 kilometres or 3 miles north-east of the Katkut) and 1.5 kilometres (1 mile) northwest of the confluence of the Kanar river with the Lokar stream. The deposit at Barwai is at present under a lease to the Manganese Mining Corporation of Indore. The work is mostly confined between Nandnia and Agarwara, The quality of the ore varies considerably as shown by analyses. The manganese content is from 20.13 to 54.73, Fe 0.75 to 10.80, SiO_2 2.99 to 48.08 and P from O 0434 to 0.945 per cent.

Mineral Springs

At Barwai there is a well known spring, called Nageshwa ka kund, while at Mohammedpur, the Sagar Nhagar spring, and at the foot of the Tazdinwali peak, the Takkiapani spring are held secred. Near Warla is a hot spring called the Ubab Deo. It is sulphurous in character.

Ochre

Ochreous clays are occasionally observed as superficial weathering products of the feruginous type of the Bijawar breccias in the Barwai region. Red boles in the scarps of the trap, north of the Narmada river, are occasionally found to be sufficiently decomposed to be used as an ochreous material. A few such occurrences are met with at Nikapahar, Bawangaza, Shindi khodra, Niwali and Purusheda. The occurrences are patchy in character and the material obtained from them is very hard and gritty and so cannot fully serve the purpose of red ochre though it is locally used as '*Geru*.'

Reh

The Narmada alluvium often shows patches of sodium carbonate and sodium chloride, in particular near Barwai and Mandleshwar. The *reh* salt from this region gave 34.5 percent sodium-carbonate.

Road Metal

Main sources of road metal and ballast are the Traps; Bijawar limestones and quartzites, Vindhyan sandstones and limestones, and laterites.

Sands

Sands suitable for plaster, mortar and concrete, may be obtained from the bed of the Narmada river; but the sands from the streams in the Deccan Trap region are unsuitable for high class work.

Semiprecious Stones

Agate and chalcedony are likely to be found in places in the amyodoloidal basalts; but there is no information on the local industry for cutting and polishing of the stone. Amethystine quartz is reported from Bagaud which is cut at Indore to a small extent for studs and buttons.

Water

Irrigation is chiefly done by wells. The wells in the granite-gneiss yield not more than 22,000 litres (4,839-58 gallons) per day but on an aveiage the yield is 4,500 litres (989.31 gallons) or less. Little irrigation is done from such wells. The yield from wells in the Vindhyan and Bijawar formations is generally poor. Sometimes a single well is unable to meet the requirements of even one or two families. Wells within these formations dry up in summer and the water level is fairly deep-more than 15 metres. The shallow wells in the *nala* beds in the region of the Bagh beds, are capable of yielding 4,500 litres (989.89 gallons) per hour continuously for 3 to 4 hours. Water level is within 5 metres (16.40 ft.) from sufrace. The yield from wells in the Katkut sandstones is fairly large and a larger quantity of water is drawn both for drinking and irrigation purposes out of these.

Within the Traps the water level is found to vary in depth from 6 to 12 metres. The yield also varies greatly. A well yielding 4,500 litres (989.96 gallons) per hour continuously for eight hours is quite common while those yielding 18,000 to 23,000 litres (5,059.56 gallons) per hour were also observed. But ground-water reservoirs in the Traps are small and ground-water levels and other features vary within short distances. It has been observed that in Traps, occurrence of close spaced horizontal joints seem to be more suitable for large yields while columnar joints come next in importance. Occurrence of red bole in a well generally indicates poor yield. In many places wide shallow depressions bounded by Trap ridges are excellent sites for wells, and wells situated within such areas arec ommonly found to yield more than 9,000 litres (1,979.83 gallons) per hour.

Earthquakes

Although, situated in a comparatively stable block of the Southern Plateau, this District lies in the seismic zone where epicentres of earthquakes of slight to moderate intensity have been located. The epicentre of the famous Earthquakes of 14th March, 1933 (epicentre 21° 32'N, 75° 50E') was located in the south-eastern part of the District. During this earthquake the eastern portion of the District came under the Modified Mercalli Intensity VII while the rest of the District experienced the intensity *VI*. The other shocks of earthquakes felt in the District are as per Table below.—

S.No.	Date	Location/Epicentre	Remarks.
1.	16th June, 1819	Rann of Kutch	Felt moderately
2.	12th June, 1897	Assam	felt
3.	4th April, 1905	Kangra	felt
4.	15th Jan., 1934	Bihar-Nepal	felt
5.	14th March, 1938	21°-32'N. 75°-50'E.	M.M. intensity VI/VII as per note above.

The first four of these earthquake shocks had their epicentres either in the great Himalayan Boundary Fault Zone or in the Rann of Kutch. The earthquakes of 1926 and 1927 with epicentres in the Vindhya Mountain Zone and the seismic socks of 1938 and 1957 originating along the Satpura range were not felt in the District.

FLORA

Most of the area covered with vegetation is managed under the Forest Department of the State Government. Only the scattered and unmanageable greenery remain under the Revenue area. The flora in the revenue area is excluded from these reports. The forests under the Forest Department are classified as under.—

1	Reserved Forests	..	1,941.30 Sq. miles (5,027.92 Sq. Km.)
2.	Protected Forests	..	34.83 ,, ,, (90.21 ,, ,,)
3.	Unclassed Forests	..	100.00 ,, ,, (259.00 ,, ,,)
	Total	..	2,076.13 Sq. miles (5,377.13 Sq. Km.)

The reserved forests cover the area as follows :

1.	Thikri Sub-Tahsil and some other parts of old Barwaha Forest Division ..	20.90 Sq. miles (54.17 Sq. Km.)
2.	The Erstwhile Barwani State ..	480.30 Sq. miles (1,243.97 Sq. Km.)
3.	Khargone Forest Division of the Holkar State	1057.00 Sq. miles (2,737.60 Sq Km.)
4.	The reserved forest of Maheshwar and Barwaha tahsils included in the Indore Forest Division.	216.83 Sq. miles (561.58 Sq. Km.)
5	Bedia Circle of Nimar (East) Forest Division.	12.10 Sq. miles (31.00 Sq. Km.)
	Total area covered ..	1,775.03 miles (4,597.32)

Thus it covered nearly the whole of the District.

After the formation of the District of Nimar (West) in Madhya Bharat on 16th June, 1948 the forests of the Holkar's Nimar, the Barwani State and Thikri Circle of Dhar State were merged to form Khargone Forest Division. An area of 12.10 Sq. miles (31.00 sq. Km) of Reserved Forests was transferred from Nimar (Old M.P.) District on the 25th January, 1950. The forests of Barwaha and Manpur Ranges falling in the West Nimar (Khargone) District, north of the

Narmada were transferred from Indore Forest Division to Khargone Division. It was, then, on the 1st July, 1961, that Khargone Division was split into two divisions, *viz.*, East-Khargone Division and West-Khargone Division with headquarters at Khargone and Barwani, respectively.

The West-Khargone Division, with its headquarters at Barwani, now consists of 999.33 Sq. miles (2,558.2 Sq. Km.) classed as Reserved, Protected and unclassed forests. The area of these classes is 879.33 Sq. miles (2,251.1 Sq. Km.), 20 Sq. miles (51.2 Sq. Km.) and 100 Sq. miles (256.00 Sq. Km.), respectively. Protected and unclassed areas are in fact under dispute with the cultivators who have occupied it illegally. This matter is mostly being dealt by the Revenue Department. The rest of the total figures for the district are in the East Khargone Division the break-up being 1,061.65 Sq. miles (2,717.8 Sq. Km.) in Reserved Forests and 14.83 Sq. miles (37.96 Sq. Km.) of protected forests.

The floristic composition has been greatly disturbed by agencies. The clearance has been made mostly for cultivation and only inaccessible areas now contain some forests. The large clearings are to be found in the Narmada Valley, the wider parts of Goi valley and the plains around Pansemal, Silawad, Barwani, Rajpur and Khargone. The major belt of the flora extends along the main range of the Satpura and its various spurs with the intervening alluvial valleys and plains on their skirts. The Vindhyachal ranges also support a chain of forests. These forests belong to group B, 4 A-Southern Trpoical Dry Deciducus forest type of Champion's classification.

The climatic climaxes encountered there in are:

C1—Dry Teak forests.
C2—South Indian Dry Mixed deciduous forests.

The edaphic climaxes as recognised by Champion are as follows:

E3—*Hardwickia* (*anjan*) forests.
E4—*Boswellia* (*Salai*) forests.
E5—*Butea* (*Palas*) forests.

Apart from the above, a few stable sub-climaxes owing to the existence to biotic factors such as felling, fire and grazing have been recognised. These have been named as Savannah. From the management point of view, however, the various over lapping or separate types have also been distinguished, *e.g.*, the bamboo forest stocks mapped in Indore Forest Division and the mixed teak and mixed *Anjan* forests separately recognized in Khargone Division.

Dry Teak Forests

This type prefers rich alluvial well-drained moist soil all over the District. It flourishes on the gently sloping valleys and occasionally on favourable deposits of loamy soil elsewhere, throughout the District. Teak forests cover about 800 sq. miles (2,072 Sq. Km.) of area in the District and extend over major portions of

Barwaha, Sanawad, Mandleshwar and Chainpur circle of Bhikangaon range. In the Barwani Forest Division teak thrives best on the accumulations of disintegrated trap covering the hills and the narrow intervening valleys south of the river Goi. These forests are spread in Sendhwa, Warla and Pansemal ranges and also in parts of Barwani and Bistan ranges. The predominance of teak over other associate species and its quality depends on soil as well as biotic factors. On the favourable sites in the valleys, well-drained and covered with black cotton soil, teak reaches in patches from 80 per cent to almost pure stands. In such localities the associates mostly found are *sadar*, *tinach*, *temru*, *dhaora* and *bia* with a sprinkle of *shisham*. Teak with a girth of 3′ to 4′ (0.9 to 1.2 metres) is very common but wherever these have suffered the fires in the past, the growth has not been sound at the base.

The forests with less than 50% of the species but more than 20% of it are extensive. The Mixed Teak Forests of Sendhwa working circle and some of the blocks of Bhikangaon have been separately classified in the Khargone Forest Division stock maps. The biotic factors exercising their influence over a long period have tended to increase the percentage of fire-hardy teak, actually encroaching upon the naturally mixed forest areas. Along with the associates mentioned above, *khair*, *haldu* and bamboos also come into some prominence. Sound trees of the associate species generally met with are about 2 Ft. (0.609 Metres) in girth. *Sadar* with a girth of 3 Ft. to 6 Ft. (0.9 Metre to 1.8 Metres) and with clear cylindrical tall of 18′ to 25′ (5.7 metres to 7.7 metres) is not uncommon where the soil is deep. Salai is chiefly found on higher hills and slopes, but, at present, is not in demand. *Anjan* occurs a little on the outer slopes. It is dense in the valleys and the bottom of the ravines, light on the lower slopes and open along acarped edges specially on south-western aspects. Teak has also increased with successive coppice fellings due to its aggressive coppicing power in areas, *e.g.*, in Barwaha and Maheshwar ranges.

The general quality of teak is IV (40′-60′ or 12.19 18.29 metres in height) with a few patches of III quality (60′ 80′ or 18.29 24.38 metres in height). North of the Narmada, the III quality seems to have fallen due to repeated coppicing, lack of proper tending and almost annual fires in the past where the crop generally consists of young (below 18″ or 45.72 c.m. girth at breast height) and lower middle aged (18″-36″ or 45.72 91.49 c.m. girth at breast height). Teak with good height and above 30″ or 76.20 c.m. girth at breast height are a few, scattered in inaccessible areas like *shikargahas*, *rumnas*, etc.

The details of associate flora are as follows:—

Dhaora (*Anogeissus latifolia*), *anjan* (*Hardwickia binnata*), *salai* (*Boswellia serrata*) and *jhingan* (*Lanea grandia*) are the main associates of teak; while *saj* (*Terminalia tomentosa*), *tendu* (*Diospyros melanoxylon*) and *mahua* (*Madhuca latifolia*) form a fair percentage in lowlying moist areas. Other main species found in the top canopy are *phansi* (*Dalbergia paniculata*), *bija* (*Legerstroemia parviflora*), *behera* (*Terminalia belerica*), *mokha* (*Schrebera swietenioides*), *kaim* (*Mitragyna

parvifolia), *kari* (*Miliusa tomentosa*), *bijasal* (*Pterocarpus marsumpium*), *rohan* (*Soymida febrifuga*), *arjun* (*Terminalia arjuna*), *shisham* (*Dalbergia latifolia*), *kalasiris* (*Albizzia lebbek*), *chichwa* (*A.odoratissima*), *haldu* (*Adina cordifolia*), *tinsa* (*Ougeinia delbergioides*), *pangra* (*Erythrina suberosa*), *chirol* (*Holoptelia integrifolia*), *gamari* (*Gmelina arborea*) and *semal* (*Salmalia malabarica*). *Bijasal*, *tinsa* and *shisham* form a negligible percentage of the crop. *Semal* also occurs in small quantities.

The underwood is thin and mainly consists of *khair* (*Acacia catechu*), *ghont* (*Zizyphus xylopvra*), *palas* (*Butea monosperma*), *amta* (*Bauhinea malabaricum*), *tendu* (*Diospyros melanoxylon*), *kari* (*Flacourtia ramontchii*), *dudhi* (*Wrightia tinctoria*), *amaltos* (*Cassia fistula*), *medhsing* (*Dolichandrone falcata*), *jamrasi* (*Elaeodendron glaucum*), *aonla* (*Emblica officinalis*), *asta* (*Bauhinea racemosa*), *bel* (*Aegle marmelos*), *kastar* (*Albizzia amara*-only in Manpur range), *pakar* (*Ficus infectoria*), *chandan* (*Santalum album*-only in parts of Indore and Dewas ranges), *dhaman* (*Grewia tiliaefolia*), *papra* (*Gardenia latifolia*), *lasor* (*Cordia dichotoma*), *reunja* (*Acacia leucophloea*) and *velati* (*Dichrostachys cinera*). Bamboos (*Dendrocalamus strictus*) are found only on some of the Vindhyan slopes and along the Kanad river but they are of poor quality. Their absence in major portions can be attributed to their extinction through over exploitation and constant fires.

The undergrowth is mostly sparse and mainly consists of *harsingai* (*Nyctanthes arbortristis*), *kurchi* (*Holarrhena antidysenterica*), *marorphali* (*Helicteres isora*), *panwar* (*Cassia tora*), *boikal* (*Gymnosporia montana*). *Karonda* (*Carissa opaca*), *gursakri* (*Grewia hirsuta*), *sida nirgund* (*Vitex negundo*), *dhawai* (*Woodfordia fruticosa*) *marvadona* (*Strobilanthus callosus*), *kalabansa* (*Colebrookia oppositifolia*), *bankapas* (*Thaspesia lampas*), *chapad* (*Moghania Spp.*) and *aparag* (*Sthyranthes aspera*).

The shrubs are more common on comparatively moister areas. The grasses, however, are abundant forming dense cover throughout the area and mainly consist of *gondrali* (*Anthistiria ciliata*), *phali* (*Apluda aristata*), *kusal* (*Heteropogon contortus*), *scran* (*Elionurus hirsutus*), *bhurbhusi* (*Eragrostis tenella*), *paonia* ((*Sehima sulcatum*) and *rusa* (*Cymbopogon martinii*).

Climbers are a few and generally confined to moister localities and these mainly consist of *keoti* (*Ventilage calycula*), *rambela* (*Vitis latifolia*), *malkangni* (*Celastrus paniculata*), *hathisandan* (*Combretum ovalifolium*), *palasbel* (*Butea superba*). *mahul* (*Bauhina vahlii*) and *gunj*(*Milletia auriculata*).

Dry Mixed Deciduous

Dry Mixed Deciduous Forests are classed, in this district, as the high forests with less than 20 per cent of teak. The pre-dominance of associate trees prevail on the higher reaches of hills, tops of the plateaus or steeps where shallow soil or the intense dryness disfavours the healthy growth of teak. These

forests are found in patches in all the ranges and about 400 sq. miles (1036 sq. km.) of area is covered by them. The whole of Khargone range, major part of Pati sub-range of Barwani range, Gadgelom sub-range of Bhikangaon Range and major portion of Bistan Range are mainly covered with such forests. The general floristic composition of the type is similar to that of Dry Teak Forests except for the absence or deficient occurrence of teak and increase in proportion of comparatively more *jhingan* (*Lannea grandis*), *rohan* (*Soymida febrifuga*), *kulu* (*Sterculia urens*), *galgal* (*Cochlospermum gossypium*) and *pangra* (*Erythrina suberosa*). In the underwood thorny species such as *khair* (*Acacia catechu*) increase in percentage. Poor quality bamboos are present only in some inaccessible ravines where they have been spared. *Harsingar* (*Nyctanthes arbortristis*) increases in the shrubby undergrowth which is usually thin but there is fairly dense growth of grasses. Natural reproduction is very scanty due to annual fires.

Anjan Forests

Anjan (*Hardwickia binnata*), forms an edaphic climax and is scattered in long stretches in the previous two types of forests mostly in the lower fringes of the Satpura. The forests with more than 50 percent of the species are termed as *Anjan* Forests. Such forests are found in Morani and Bokrata portions of Barwani range, Bhikangaon and Khargone Working Circles of Khargone range, Barud and Bhadwali circles of Bistan range, Bedia circle of Sanawad range and in patches in Barwaha, Pansemal, Balwada, Bhikangaon, Sendhwa and Warla ranges. The area between the Narmada and the Goi are full of *anjan*. However, the patches of *anjan* north of the Narmada hardly exceed 10 acres (4.05 Hectares) in area. These forests occupy about 200 sq. miles (512 Sq. Km.) of the area in the district. The evergreen and shady species grows in a variety of soils but is seen thriving well in levelled by dry localities on hard *murram* or gravelly soils on Trap. The country between the Narmada and the Goi basins and the western portions of the district are par *excellence* the hope of *anjan* where it delights most in sedimentary inter-trappean beds or sand stone rocks which usually fringe the base of slopes. The common associates are *salai*, *karai* and *mohini* on the shallow soils of the higher hills while on the lower hills *khair*, *dhaora*, *siras*, *kekria* and *rohin* are met with. Teak of small dimensions is found in a very small quantity on rich and moist soils in the valleys and ravines. Thin culms of bamboos occur sporadically in valleys and ravines avoiding southerly aspects. The general size of *anjan* trees provide cylindrical pole of 20 Ft. to 30 Ft. (6.10 metres to 9.14 metres) in length and 3 Ft. to 6 Ft. (0.91 metre to 1.83 metres) in girth but most of the growth is unsound at the base in Khargone Division. The growth of population and the spread of cultivation have proved disastrous to the trees existence, as not only its leaves are prized for fodder but also the bark obtained from the saplings is extensively utilised for cordage. It has been drawn out from some areas in the north-east through maltreatment, grazing and fire. The species seeds profusely every third or fourth year and germination is good being best represented on abandoned sites of patch cultivation. The seedlings, though with long roots, take some time to install themselves against the scorching effects of the Sun.

Gradually young *anjan* is replacing the old and unsound associated species in the areas. The forest where *anjan* grows in equal proportion with *sadar*, *dhaora*, *khair*, *salai* and *mohini* has been classified as 'Mixed *Anjan*' Forestsin Khargone Forest Division. Such forests have been specified to be in Malan Felling Series of Warla Circle, at the foot of the Bijagarh Hills in Khargone Working Circle and Bhikangaon and Sendhwa Working Circles.

Salai Forests

This type of forests overlap the Dry Teak and Dry Mixed Deciduous Forests but occur primarily in the later type of forests. The floristic composition is similar to the types except for the increased percentage of *salai*. *Salai* occurs almost pure and monopolises the steep and precipitous slopes or tops of hills, plateaus and ridges or spurs where the soil is generally poor and shallow. It is seen growing gregariously on the plateau of the Satpura and on the Vindhyan scarps in the north. The southern portion of Bistan range and Garlam sub-range are mainly occupied by *salai*. Long stretches of *salai* exist in Barwaha, Mandleshwar, Pansemal, Barwani, Sendhwa and Warla ranges. The total *Salai* forests are about 300 sq. miles (777 sq. km.) in the District. Important associates of *salai* are *dhaora*, *jhingan*, *galgal* and *khair*. *Salai* has extended in the Mixed Forests due to its special adaptation to very sites and also due to the maltreatment of more economic associate species salai being a good fire resistant. It grows to large size. The crop is mostly middle-aged and mature. Taking the species individually the natural reproduction is deficient but the reproduction of teak is, however, quite profuse under *salai* in some patches.

Palas Forests

Specifically it occurs in patches on the stiff claycy black cotton soil north of the Narmada but is also seen in other parts of the District usually stunted and scattered over dense grass growth.

Other Sub-Stable Sub-Climaxes

Apart from the above described classes of forests there are some other sub-stable sub-climaxes of a few species growing in patches under certain conditions particular to them. Bamboos over lap in small patches nearly in all parts of the District wherever the topography is difficult for other species. In the eastern part of the District it is found remarkably in Bistan, Mandleshwar, Bhikangaon, Balwada and Barwaha ranges. However, the growth is little in Khargone and Sanawad ranges. Steep hill slopes and ravines being the choicest shelter, it is found most remarkably as a separate sub-climax in the central part of the Satpuras in Khargone Forest Division on both sides of Tasdin and Lanka Hills. Similarly, wherever the forests have been removed by the menaces of axe and fire or have been denied adequate regeneration by overgrazing, the area gives a look of the grassy blank with deformed or stunted trees. In the Working Plan Report of Khargone Forest Division such areas have been termed as Savanna and are identified in the area north-west of Lanka peak.

Past System of Forest Management and Its Effects

The forests of the District apart from those of Beria were included in the Holkar, Barwani and Dhar States. These were accessible to the public for all purposes till 1892, when the Forest Department in the Holkar State was organised. The forests of the Holkar State were divided into two classes known as *Chhota Jungle* and the *Bara Jungle* the former being managed by the Revenue Department and the latter by the Forest Department. The *Chhota Jungle*, more or less, became part of village areas and was often given up for cultivation. The *Kham Tahsil* system of management was in vogue in the *Bara Jungle*. In this system the wood purchaser of the forest produce used to cut, collect and fetch the material to the revenue collecting *Naka* where he paid the dues and removed the produce. The best timber of more economic species was removed for a nominal fee under this system. This worked till 1903 when the Forest Department was reorganised.

The *Ijara system* was in vogue in Bhikangaon *Pargana* till 1916. This made the north-eastern portion of Bhikangaon Range a honey comb of forests and cultivation.

The first working plan by Sham Sunderlal was introduced in 1904. The demarcation of forests was taken up in 1906 and was completed in 1910. Some more blocks were added in the Reserved forests during this period. After the demarcation of the forests the coupes were worked in the Reserved Forests with success. A system of monopoly of sales was introduced in 1914 for the *abadi* forests in which the contractor agreed to pay a certain lump sum or percentage over the rates fixed for different classes of wood. He then sold the wood to other purchasers at his rate. This system worked well till 1917.

The second working plan for Khargone Division prepared by Bhanap was redrawn in 1918 and brought into force from July, 1919. The chief particulars of this plan and subsequent changes were that a rotation of 30 years was fixed and Barwaha Forest Division was created in the year 1926.

The treatment proposed was Improvement Fellings but unfortunately it was not worked out properly and the working went on the lines of simple coppice system. The prescribed cleaning and thinning operations, the closer of grazing, the afforestation in the blanks and the departmental propagation of lac was either ignored or was not done properly. The only good effect of the plan was that irregular and selective fellings could be checked and even aged coupes with increased percentage of teak could be produced.

The second working plan prepared by J. P. Tiwari came in force in 1932 which was almost identical with the previous one. The system adopted for treatment was coppice with standards and for the attainment of normal forest and growth of trees up to 5′ in girth, the period of rotation was fixed at 60 years. Regeneration of *anjan* was ensured by the reservation of young trees, seed-bearers, cultural operations and closure of grazing. To ensure the pollarding,

stemps of 12" to 18" were to be left in the fellings. Cutting back operation, fire-protection measures and artificial plantation on small scale were to be taken up departmentally. Around cattle *paraos* and *abadi* blocks grazing was to be closed at least for 5 years in the teak predominant areas and for 10 years in the anjan-predominant areas. Breaking up the soil around the selected *anjan* seed-bearers and broadcast sowing of the seeds of *chamar-aonli* to protect the new *anjan* shoots was prescribed.

The three ranges (working circles) of Warla, Sendhwa and Khargone were divided into eight felling series, subdivided into three compartments, each to be worked annually in rotation of 3 years.

Barwani State Forests

The forest conservancy was introduced in 1870 when a nominal tax on the export of timber was levied through the *kamdars* of the *parganas* who granted permits for the extraction of forest produce, while the dues were levied by the customs. R. Fagan, Forest Officer of Khandesh was deputed in 1891 to draw up the proposals for the future management of the forest. The forest settlement began in 1894 and the Reserved Forests were regulated in 1897. In 1901, after the completion of forest boundaries coppice-fellings by contractors under regular series and selection-fellings under partial series were started. Coppiced areas were closed for grazing. This continued till 1944. Fire protection was also prescribed.

The first working plan of the Barwani State forests was compiled by J. D. St. Josheph in 1906. This was based on his local knowledge. The period of rotation was only 25 years. Compartments for working were not prescribed. This plan was revised slightly in respect of coupes and changes in their area, twice in the years 1933 and 1941. On the suggestion of A. L. Griffith All India Silviculturist, the plan was again revised in 1944. The system prescribed in the third revision by P. C. Mehta was Coppice with Standards. In this revision five working circles, co-extensive with five ranges, *viz.*, Narmada, Rajpur, Silawad, Pati and Pansemal subdivided into compartments and coupes were formed. The rotation was increased to 50 years as also the exploitable age of the trees giving a girth of 5 feet. The felling series were divided into 50 approximately equiproduction coupes, the division being based on area. Light felling were prescribed only in the less accessible forests of Pachham pahar in a rotation of 15 years.

Instead of burning the firelines, it was proposed to burn the grasses before they are fully dried. Extraction of teak leaves and Anjan bark was stopped. The stamp of *anjan* were to be 18" above ground when exploited. *Nistar* facilities were also provided to the villagers. Conservation of ground-cover was given due notice according to the gradient of the area.

The Holkar State Forests Lying North of the Narmada

These were included in the Indore forest division. The forests of Maheshwar formed part of Manpur range while the forests of Barwaha Tahsil were included

in the Indore (41,533 acres or 16,817 hectares), Mhow (75,645 acres or 30,626 hectares) and Barwaha (87,576 acres or 35,456 hectares) ranges. These were worked into *Khamtahsil* and *Izara* systems as in other parts of the Holkar State forests. The first working plan was prepared in 1908 for Barwaha range and in 1909 for Indore and Mhow ranges by Sham Sunder lal. On the rough estimates, a 30 year rotation for a treatment of Improvement Fellings was introduced. Many of the prescriptions were on the line of Coppice-with-Reserves. However, the actual working was almost on the Simple Coppice system. This did not achieve the aims but levelled up the effects of past irregular and selective fellings.

J. P. Tiwari's plan of 1932 prescribed 45 years as the period of rotation in Indore and Mhow ranges and 60 years in Barwaha range. The coppice with-standards system was prescribed but was actually worked on the line of simple coppice. Each range, except *shikargahas*, unkworkable and isolated blocks, was a separate working circle.

Thikri Forests of Dhar State

The forests of Thikri sub-tahsil were owned and managed by the Dhar State. The Forest Department of Dhar State was established in 1896. A '*Jungle Kaida*' was drawn up and schedule of rates of forest produce were fixed. Forests were managed under '*khud katai*' system which consisted of letting out the forests to individuals for annas twelve (now Re. 0.75) per axe, per month and allowing them to cut within the prescribed time-limit what they liked without any restriction. Thus, all wood of marketable dimensions was exploited while a large quantity remained to waste and rot.

In the year 1901, the Forest Department of Dhar State was reorganised and the unrestricted fellings under '*Khud Katai*' system were stopped. However, it was only in 1913 that some sort of working scheme was introduced for the working of the forests.

Game Laws and Measures for the Preservation of Wild Life

Almost all the forests in the District abound in the games of various kinds. During the Princely times *shikar* was the royal privilege in the Holkar's Nimar (eastern portion of the present District and the Nisarpur pargana of Dhar District). After the formation of Madhya Bharat State in 1948 the game of that area was greatly reduced by the uncontrolled *shikar* activities. The aboriginals also contributed to the destruction of the game. However, the restrictions have been tightened now but poaching is almost rampant. The growing use of jeep cars and the unscrupulousness of the *shikaris* has added to the destruction. Generally the persons neither enter into the adventure of hunting nor enjoy to observe the wilderness but they take it as a source of economic gain.

Now the game is managed under the shooting rules framed under Madhya Bharat Forest Act, 73 of 1950. The forest area, except the Game-Reserves of the Ex-rulers, is divided into shooting blocks. The Divisional Forest Officers of the

respective Forest Divisions issue the shooting permits in the normal course in the prescribed form specifying the kind and the limit of game which can be shot.

The other Acts in force regarding the wild game are Madhya Bharat Wild Birds and Animals Protection Act, 1 of 1952, and Madhya Bharat Game Act of 1952. The former aimed at protecting and preserving the wild game which is heading towards extinction and the latter controls the shooting of wild game outside Government forests.

Van Mahotsava and Forest Centenary

In consequence of the ruthless devastation of the forests by the human agencies and the subsequent creations of the scarcity of forest produce, soil erosion and the warning of the climatic changes led the Government to enlighten the public with the urgency and importance of preserving the forests. With this idea *Van Mahotsava* Weeks are celebrated in the month of July every year in the District beginning from 1950. *Van Mahotsava* is celebrated in the 2nd week of July with the co-operation of other government departments, public bodies, institutions and individuals. Public meetings, exhibitions, distribution of seeds and plants of fruit and ornamental species of trees for afforestation are the main features of the occasion.

In commemoration of the beginning of forest conservancy in Madhya Pradesh and its successful completion of a hundred years, the Forest Centenary was celebrated on 9th Dec. 1961. Along with the usual activities of the Van Mahotsava a teak plantation of 100 acres (40.50 Hectare) was raised at Marsinghya in Sendhwa range.

FAUNA

The wild animals met with in the District do not differ remarkably from those found in most parts of the country. Of the animals of the carnivorous order the tiger (*Felis tigris*) is very rare and seen in the interior areas with dense forests. Panthers are also occassionally seen. Panther or *Tendua* (*Felis Pardus*) is the other animal of the order which is lighter in size, more cunning and of stealthy habits. It attacks the smaller animals and a lonely man from behind or from the bush shade, generally in the night. It pursues to a far long tracks and preys at any convenient point. Goats, sheep, country dogs and poultry are its favourite prey. *Sonkutta* (*Cuon dukhunensis*), a carnivorous species which was found in the District in 1930, is not found now, the reporting year being 1968. This species is a great destroyer of wild fauna and habitual of attacking animals mercilessly without purpose. *Lomdi* (*Canis aureus*), and *jarak* (*Hyena*) are the scavangers among the carnivorous animals. These also attack on the smaller animals like goats, calves, poultry and lonely children. The *jarak* (*Hyena*) may also attack on a lonely passer by but strong country dogs can well fight with these scavanger animals.

Sloth Bear (*Melursus ursinus*) is found in most inaccessible areas of Pati Range only. It is not a cornivorous animal but is dangerous for lonely visitors in the forest. Wild bear (*Sus cristatus*) feeds upon the roots of the plants and is seen in the fringes of the forests. This, as well as the *nilgai* (*Boselaphus tragocamelus*) is detrimental to the cultivated crops. The other non-carnivorous animals of the big variety found in the District are *sambhar* (*Cervus unicolor*), *cheetal* (*Cervus axis*), *chinkara* (*Gazella axis bennetti*) and monkey.

Khargosh (*Lepus ruficaudatus*) is the only mammal included in the list of small game in the District along with the game birds like *junglimurgi* (*Gallus sonnerati* and *Gallus ferruginous*), *mor* (*Pavo cristatus*), *titar* (*Francolinus pondicerianus*), *bhat titar* (*Pterocles exustus*), *bater* (*Coturnix communix*) and*k abutar* (*Columba livia intermedia*). The watery birds commonly found are the varieties of ducks, teals and snipes.

Reptiles

The reptiles include many varieties of snakes of which three are deadly poisonous. These are known as the *nag* or cobra, daboia and krait. Of the less poisonous or harmless snakes the *dhaman*, *Lycodon aulicus*, *Gongylopsis conicus*, *Tropionodes plumbicolour*, *Dendrophis pictus* and various species of *Oligodon* and *Simotes*, may be mentioned.

Pythons are rerely seen. Lizards and monitors (*Gap samp*) of various species are found everywhere.

Magar or short-nosed crocodile and the *gharial* or long-nosed alligator (*Gariaties gangeticus*) have been recorded from rivers or tanks, while the turtle and many varieties of frogs are generally found on the banks of rivers and tanks.

Fishes

The major fish habitats in the District are the Narmada and its tributaries, *viz.*, Veda, the Kunda and others. The Satak dam and a few small tanks also support small quantities of fishes. The estimated lengths of the Narmada, the Veda and the Kunda are about 120 miles (193.20 km.), 20 miles (32.20 km.) and 30 miles (48.30 km), respectively. The approximate extent, depth and volume of water in some of tanks in the District are given in the following table.—

S. No.	Name of the Tank	Area in Acres (Hectare)	Maximum Feet (Metres)	Minimum Feet (Meters)	Volum of Water in the greater part of the year (c. ft.)
1.	Munshi-ka-talab	75(30.38)	12 (3.66)	10 (3.05)	18.77
2.	Virla tank	100(40.50)	35(10.61)	20 (6.10)	139.80
3	Ranjeet tank ..	50(20.25)	20 (6.10)	8 (2.43)	22.50
4.	Sirlai tank	75(30.38)	25 (7.62)	15 (4.57)	39.52
5.	Jamunia tank	75(30.38)	20 (6.10)	5 (1.52)	93.03
6.	Lachora tank	75(30.38)	20 (6.10)	8 (2.44)	114.50
7.	Gagna tank	800(324)	35(10.67)	15 (4.57)	269.00
8.	Satak dam	1,130(457.65)	55(16.76)	37(11.28)	700.00

The most common fishes found in the District are *C. Catta, L. calbasu, L. Fimbriatus, C. mrigala, B. tor, M. singala, Omarution, O. G. O, gatchna, H. fassilis, M. armatus (Bam), Gagara* and other small varieties of fishes. *O. gachna (sole), H. fossilsis (singhi), M. armatus', (bam), L. gonius (gol)* and *O. marulius (saul)* are most abundant in the tanks while *B. tor (Mahaseer), C. mrigala, L. fimbriatus, M. armetus, Gagara* and O. *marulius (saul)* are most abundant in the river.

Living the shallow water most is *O. gachna (sole), O. marulius* loves the deep still water. The special varieties of fishes noticed in the District are Gagara and B. tor (*Mahseer*).

Mortality Caused by Reptiles and Wild Animals

The cases of deaths caused by snakes and wild animals are registered in the police stations in the District. During the past six years starting from 1957, the number of deaths occuring due to snake-bite was registered to be 273. During the same period the wild fauna took 17 human lives. The deaths due to snake bite are rare in the winter specially during the months of December, January and February. The rainy seasons observed 56 per cent, the highest of such deaths in the seasonal cycle. The adjoining months of May and October also mark a high death figure due to snake-bite. The deaths caused by wild animals occurred most in the month of March, followed by April, May, October and February. It seems that the rise in temperature and the drying up of the hilly streams drive the beasts nearer to human habitations in a state of frayed tempers.

The snake-bite cases occurred most in the forested and hilly terrain along the south-western boundary except around Varla where it was low. The Police-station of Khetia and Sendhwa recorded 44 and 37 deaths, respectively, during the same period. The adjoining tract included in the Police stations of Silawad, Rajpur, Oon, Barud and Bhikangaon and the Police-station of Chainpur in the extreme north-east on the Vindhya recorded from 13 to 23 deaths due to snake-bite. The traingular plain of the Narmada from Barwani and Khargone to Balwada in the District observed only a few deaths of snake bite.

The casualties inflicted by the wild animals numbered five each, in Barud and Barwani Police-stations and two each, in Barwaha, Gogawan, Rajpur and Silawad Police-stations during the same period of six years.

CLIMATE

The climate of the District is on the whole dry, except during the south-west monsoon season. The year may be divided into four seasons. The cold season from December to February is followed by the hot season from March to May. The south-west monsoon season following thereafter lasts till september.

Rainfall

Records of rainfall in the District are available for six raingauge stations for periods ranging form 30 to 70 years. The details of the rainfall at these stations and for the District as a whole are given in Appendix. Table 1 and 2. The average annual rainfall in the District is 831.5 mm (32.74"). About 91 percent of the annual rainfall is received in the period from June to September, July being the rainiest month. The rainfall in the major portion of the District increases from the south to the north; but in the Barwani-Rajpur region in the northwest, the rainfall is much less than in other parts of the District. The annual rainfall in the District varies from 636.2 mm. (25.05") at Barwani to 965.1 mm. (37.99") at Pansemal. The variation in the rainfall from year to year is large. During the period 1901 to 1950, the highest rainfall which was 155 percent of the normal occurred in 1944, while the lowest annual rainfall which was 37 percent of the normal occurred in 1901. It will be seen in Appendix-Table 2 that the annual rainfall in the District was between 600 and 1,100 mm. (23.62" and 43.31") in 33 years out of fifty.

There are 43 rainy days (days with rainfall 2.5 mm., 10 cents-or more) during a year in the District. This number varies from 38 at Rajpur to 54 at Pansemal.

The heavist rainfall in 24 hours recorded at any station in the District was 400.3 mm. (15.76") at Khargone on the 20th June, 1938.

Temperature

There is no meteorological observatory in the District. The account that follows is mainly based on the records of the observatories in the neighbouring Districts where similar climatic conditions prevail. Temperature in the area begins to rise rapidly from March. May is the hottest month of the year with the mean daily maximum temperature at about 41°C. (105.8°F.). During May and June before the onset of south-west monsoon, the day temperature sometimes rises up to about 47°C. (116.6°F). Thunder showers that occur on some summer afternoons bring welcome relief. With the onset of the south-west monsoon over the District by about the middle of June, there is an appreciable drop in the day temperature. With the withdrawal of the south-west monsoon by the end of September, there is a slight increase in the day temperature and a secondary maximum in day temperature is recorded in October. After October both day and night temperatures steadily decrease. December is the coldest month with the mean daily minimum temperature at about 11°C. (51.8°F.). During the cold season, in association with the eastward passage of western disturbances across the northern part of India the District experiences spells of cold weather when the minimum temperature sometimes goes down to a degree or two above the freezing point of water.

Humidity

Except during the south-west monsoon months, the relative humidities are above 70 percent and the atmosphere is generally dry, afternoons being much

drier than mornings. The summer is the driest part of the year when the relative humidities, especially in the afternoons are as low as 10 to 20 percent.

Cloudiness

The skies are generally heavily clouded to overcast during the south-west monsoon season. In the rest of the year they are mostly clear or lightly clouded.

Winds

Winds are generally light except during the latter half of summer and the south-west monsoon season, when they are moderate. In the summer season winds blow mostly from the west or north-west. During the south-west monsoon season, winds are light and variable in direction in the mornings while they are mostly from the north or north-east in the afternoons.

Special Weather Phenomena

In association with depressions, which form in the Bay of Bengal during the south-west monsoon season and move in a west-north-westerly direction across the central parts of the country, and less frequently with storms and depressions of post-monsoon months from the Arabian Sea, the District experiences widespread heavy rain and strong winds. Thunderstorms occur during summer and south-west monsoon months, their frequency being highest in June. Dust storms occur occasionally in the summer afternoons.

CHAPTER II

HISTORY

History of West Nimar is not essentially barren of memorable deeds, heroic achievements or dynastic vicissitudes, but these events had never been recorded into a systematic chronological order. Recent excavations, by a group of explorers in different parts of this District, is an instance, where historians have been engaged in that fascinating task of finding out the chain of cause and effect of relationship in all seemingly unrelated events and trace out that missing link in the sequence of historical occurrences. It was mainly to ascertain the truth or otherwise of the prevalent *puranic* traditions that several expeditions were conducted at different sites of Malwa.

Early in the Nineteen Fiftees Dr. H.D. Sankalia explored the Narmada valley between Mandaleshwar and Sahasradhara, including Maheshwar, and discovered more than 400 palaeolithic tools. Some of these were from what De Terra and Patterson call 'Lower' and 'Upper Narmada Group' respectively.[1] These tools belong to the Early Stone Age and represent the first cultural phase of the pre-historic period. On paleontological evidence these tools, like the tools discovered between Hoshangabad and Narsimhapur, are assigned a horizon near to the Middle Pleistocene Period.[2]

This was, probably, followed by the next cultural phase in the Narmada basin, what may be termed as the Second Stone Age or Middle Stone Age. This phase of culture was also considerably old and fell within the limits of the Pleistocene. Huge factory sites of this culture were discovered at Dongargaon and Choli, on either side of the Narmada, near Maheshwar.[3] Similar tools have been discovered at other places of the Chambal river. There were chance finds of palaeolithic and microlithic implements in Barwani, Un, and Reverkhedi of this District. A microlithic industry, principally associated with the black soil or regur was also discovered at Choli, 10 miles north of Maheshwar. The industry has been described as 'proto-microlithic' for its unusually large size.[4]

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1. De Terra and Patterson, Studies on the Ice Age in India and Associated Human Cultures, pp. 312-26.
2. Ibid., Ancient India, No. 9, 1953, p. 60.
3. H.D. Sankalia, Pre and Proto-History of Malwa, p. 6.
4. Ancient India, No. 9, p. 68.

In Maheshwar and Navdatoli the tools of this phase are characterised by the exclusive use of scraper, flakes and cores of chert and jasper, and indicate a gap in time between this industry and the succeeding phase of human habitation in this region.[1] Dr. Sankalia surmises that the man, in the Malwa region, had to pass through another Stone Age before he discovered the use of copper and settled down at one place, built house, domesticated animals and took to agriculture.[2]

In the Godavari basin we have a similar industry which is associated with the Middle Pleistocene Fauna, e.g. Bos Namdicus and Falconer. A further evidence of a link between the Narmada and the Godavari cultures was provided by the occurrence of the Jorwe ware in a pit at Navdatoli,[3] from where were gathered other valuable evidences about contemporary domestic architecture, ceramic and artefacts.[4]

This was perhaps the last phase of the Pre-Historic culture before the Proto-Historic painted pottery people settled here. Deposits of this period have been unearthed both at Navdatoli and Maheshwar. The people of this culture, which may be provisionally dated at the first half of the first millenium B.C., settled right on the virgin black soil of the surrounding regions.[5] They used both plain and painted pottery, an advanced microlithic industry, mace heads, sling-stones, copper pins, chisels, hooks and beads of agate, etc.[6] A fine painted pottery is, indeed, a principal hall-mark of this culture, for it vanished after the 6th-7th century B.C.

The pottery was predominently red with black geometrical designs, foliage, dancing human figures and antelopes. These extremely beautiful, delicate and symmetrical vessels with pictures of lion, dog, tiger, panther, tortoise, fish, peacock, geese and even sunset or sunrise suggest a possible cultural influence from beyond India.[7] The excavation at Navdatoli has revealed that the first settlers of this culture used to live in square, rectangular or round houses with walls of bamboo, wood and clay, plastered with lime, whose floors were made smooth, firm and insect-proof by a spread of lime. The close juxtaposition of these huts indicates a nucleated settlement.[8]

Their food was cooked on hearths and they ate wheat, rice, and pulses like *masur*, *mung*, peas and a grain locally called *tivda*. This is the first time in India that so many types of grain have been discovered from an ancient site.

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1. H.D. Sankalia, The Excavations at Maheshwar and Navdatoli, 1952-53, p. 21.
2. Pre and Proto-History of Malwa, p. 6.
3. Indian Archaeology—A Review, 1958-59, p. 2.
4. Ibid., 1957-58, p. 2.
5. The Excavations at Maheshwar and Navdatoli, p. 21.
6. Ancient India, No. 9, pp. 98-99.
7. Pre and Proto-History of Malwa, p. 9.
8. Indian Archaeology-A Review, 1957-58, p. 30.

This discovery is quite significant. The people who ate so many vegetarian dishes must have cultivated these, and hence could be stated to have attained a certain standard of civilization.[1] Storage jars in which food were prepared or stored were not only large and sturdy but also well made. Cups, bowls and dishes in which they ate and drank were very attractive and beautiful. The use of copper was known to these people, but they relied more on points and blades of fine grained stones like chalcedony.[2]

The Chalcolithic culture in this District was followed gradually by a period of Northern Black Polished Ware and the early cast and punch-marked coins near about circa 500 B.C. and subsequently by a culture of Red Polished Ware in 100 A.D.[3]

Recently, *Stupas* of the period of circa 300 B.C. have been discovered at Navdatoli and Kasrawad, suggesting early Buddhist settlements of that period.[4]

The Malwa Ware, a pale red-slipped ware with paintings in black, recalls a similar pot in the earliest period at Sialk in Iran, and suggests its manufacture by a section of the Indo-Iranian or Aryan race. Their first occupation of this District might go back to the beginning of the Second millennium B.C. Probably, they were the *Puranic* Haihayas and other branches of the Yadu dynasty[5], before whom the retreating aboriginal tribes of Nagas, Andhras, Pulindas, Savaras and Karkus found their last refuge in the fastness of this District. Even now the descendants of those original tribes constitute the major portion of its principal population.

Mahishmati in Ancient Literature

The foundations of Mahishmati and Navdatoli were laid around 1000 B.C. This is corroborated by Carbon, 14 tests of the samples of layers, from the excavated sites in the two aforesaid places. "A people knowing beautiful wheel-made painted pottery and carts with solid wheel had settled (or colonized) on either bank of the Narmada".[6] Regarding the exact location of Mahishmati there is a great deal of controversy. Although some of the historians have equated Omkar Mandhata of East Nimar District with Mahishmati,[7] the evidence seems to be overwhelmingly in favour of its identification with Maheshwar in West Nimar District. This identification finds support in the writings of a number

1. Pre and Proto-History of Malwa, p. 8.
2. Indian Archaeology-A Review, 1957-58, p. 32.
3. Ibid., 1959-60, pp. 69-70.
4. The Excavations at Maheshwar and Navdatoli, p. 30.
5. Indian Archaeology-A Review 1958-59, p. 31; Pre and Proto-History of Malwa, p. 10.
6. The Excavations at Maheshwar and Navdatoli, pp. XII-XIII.
7. *Markandeya Purana* (Bibliothica Indica), 1914, p. 333 and foot-note; Fleet, Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society, 1910, pp. 440-47; V.V. Mirashi, Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum, Vol. IV, Pt. I, p. xliv; Indian Antiquary, 1876, p. 53.

of scholars.[1] According to H.D. Sankalia Maheshwar fulfils all conditions for identifying it with Mahishmati.[2] Thus, Maheshwar seems to be a place of great antiquity and endows the region covered by the present West Nimar District with rich historical tradition. Maheshwar is indeed, one of the few fortunate towns of India which have a well-attested history from the beginning of the Christian era.

The *Mahabharat* refers to Mahishmati as *Maheshwarpura* (according to one reading Maheshvarasthan) where Rudra destroyed Tripuri. We are told that during his *digvijaya* Pandava Sahadeva proceeded to conquer Mahishmati on the Narmada, then being ruled by King Nila.[3] Since the latter was protected by *Agni*, the Fire God, Sahadeva was helpless. Referring to an earlier period the Mahabharat also tells us that Mahishmati was the capital first of Dasasva, a son of Manu, then of Duryodhana, a great-grandson of Dasasva, who had married the Narmada and given his daughter Sudarshan in marriage to *Agni*, and finally of Arjuna Kartavirya.[4]

Mahishmati finds mention in several *Puranas* and the *Harivamsa*, which unanimously assert that the place was situated on the Narmada and associate the Haihayas, a branch of the Yadu-Vamsa with it. There is mention in the *Puranas* of the Karkotaka Nagas who inhabited the Anupa territory, before they were conquered by the Haihaya king Arjuna.[5] Probably they were the progenitors of today's aboriginal tribes of West Nimar. The Anupa Desa, whose capital was Mahishmati and which corresponds to Nimar region, is referred to in the *Siva Purana* and the *Harivamsa* as Mahisha or Mahishakas.[6] Its people are called the Anupas (a Vindhya tribe) in the *Vayu* and *Brahma Puranas*.[7]

According to a version of the *Harivamsa*, Muchukunda, a son of Yadu Mandhatri founded this ancient city on the bank of the Narmada, adorned it with temples, parks and roads and protected with a moat.[8] But in an earlier section of the same scripture as well as in the *Padma*, *Vayu* and *Matsya Puranas* credit is given for this to Mahismant, a lineage of the Yadu dynasty who conquered the town and named it Mahishmati.[9] The *Vayu Purana*[10] and *Matsya Purana*[11] also tell us that Arjuna Kartavirya conquered the territory from the

1. Proceedings, Indian History Conference, 1939, p. 141 and 1946, p. 61 ff., Journal of the Gujarat Research Society, Vol. VIII, 1946, pp. 135-38; Ancient India, Ed. by V.R. Karandikar, Vol. I, 1936, pp. 2-3. A. Cunningham, however, thought that Mahishmati might be Mandla. *See* Ancient Geography of India, p. 559.
2. The Excavations at Maheshwar and Navdatoli, pp. 1-15.
3. *Sabha Parvam* Ed. by Edgerton, Sarga 28, Verses 1-38; *Udyog Parvam*, Ed. by S.K. Dey, Sarga 139, Verse 23. King Nila of Mahishmati was an ally of the Kauravas and fought against the Pandavas in the great Bharat War.
4. The Excavations at Maheshwar and Navdatoli, p. 7; The Vedic Age, p. 302.
5. The Vedic Age, p. 282.
6. N.L. Dey, Geographical Dictionary of Ancient and Mediaeval India, p. 8; S.D. Choudhari, Ethnic Settlements in Ancient India, p. 70.
7. U.R. Dikshitar, Purana Index, Vol. I, p. 60.
8. The Excavations at Maheshwar and Navdatoli, p. 6.
9. The Vedic Age, p. 278.
10. *Vayu Purana*, Ed. by Rajendralal Mitra, Vol. II, Adhyaya 32, Verse 26.
11. *Matsya Purana* (Anandashrama Ed.), Adhyaya 43, Verse 29.

sons of the Karkotaka Nagas. This Arjuna Kartavirya was a great king, a *Samrat* and a *Chakravartin* according to both Brahmanical and Kshatriya tradition, who extended the Haihaya sway far and wide during his long reign. He was known by his patronymic Kartavirya and also as Sahasrarjuna or 'Thousand Armed'. These thousand arms probably signified his fleet of thousand ships.[1]

Kartavirya is described in the *Puranas* as capable of controlling the waters of the Narmada and the fury of the ocean.[2] He is further said to have learnt *yoga* from the Dattatreyas and imprisoned Ravana in his capital at Mahishmati. In one of his victorious campaigns he came to the hermitage of Apava Vasishtha in the Himalayas and on another occasion entered into conflict with Parasurama of the Bhrigu dynasty. In this last attempt he was completely annihilated.[3]

Avanti

We are told in the *Markandeya Purana* and the *Linga Purana* that five sons of Arjuna, *viz.*, Sura, Surasena, Drita, Krishna and Jayadhvaja ruled Avanti. They belonged to the five racial groups of Vitihotras, Bhojas, Avantis, Kundikeras and Saryatas, collectively known as the Talajanghas.[4] Of these five probably the Vitihotras lived on the Narmada, to the south of the Avantis.[5]

Nothing further is known about the history of this region till a little before the rise of Buddhism, when we find Nimar included in the kingdom of Avanti,[6] one of the four great contemporary monarchies, the other three being Koshala, Vatsa and Magadha.

In the Pali text *Mahagovinda Suttanta*, Mahissati (Mahishmati) is described as the capital of Avanti, whose king is referred to as Vessabhu. It appears that for some time there were two Avantis, the Northern, of which the capital was Ujjain and the Southern whose capital was Mahishmati.[7]

In course of time, probably, Mahishmati lost its importance and its place was taken up by Ujjain. For in the Buddha's time, we find a united kingdom of Avanti under king Chanda Pradyota Mahesena, with Ujjain as capital.[8] Hence forward the ancient history of the District, more or less, coincided with the history of Avanti or Malwa. These Pradyota kings were five in number, who were contemporaries of the Saisunaga rulers, and reigned for 138 years. Chanda Pradyota, with his two sons Gopalaka and Palaka, and his daughter Vasavadatta (the chief queen of king Udayana of the Vatsa) figured prominently in Bhasa's dramas, *Swapnavasavadatta* and *Priyadarsika*.[9]

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1. The Vedic Age, p. 282.
2. V.R. Dikshitar, op. cit., p. 106.
3. F. Pargiter, Ancient Indian Historical Tradition, p. 152.
4. B.C. Law, Ujjayini in Ancient India, p. 10.
5. D.C. Sircar, Studies in the Geography of Ancient and Mediaeval India, p. 35.
6. H.C. Ray Chaudhury, Political History of Ancient India, p. 144.
7. D.R. Bhandarkar, Charmichael Lectures, 1918, p. 54.
8. B.C. Law, op. cit., pp. 3-4.
9. Ibid., pp. 12 and 14.

During the reign of these Pradyota rulers Avanti became an important centre of Buddhism, as some of the most outstanding adherents of this faith like Mahakaccana, Sona, Abhaya, Kumara Dhammapala of that age came from this region. Indeed as Dr. Rhys Davis suggests; the Buddhism, born in Magadha, received its garb in Avanti.[1]

Though there is no direct or precise evidence it seems from the distorted historical account in the *Puranic* literature that the Pradyotas were supplanted by a Sisunaga monarch, after which Avanti was incorporated in the growing kingdom of Magadha.[2] Later, this region was, perhaps, subjugated by the Nandas.[3] The *Puranas* seem to provide an indirect corroboration. They call Mahapadma, the first Nanda king, the destroyer of all Kshatriyas (*Sarva Kshatrantakah*) and the sole monarch (*ekrat*) of the earth,[4] and among the contemporary dynasties, the name of the Pradyotas is conspicuous by its absence. In between probably came the Vitihotras and the Asmakas.[5]

According to an uncorroborated tradition recorded by Buddhaghosa in his *Samanta-Pasadika* Avanti was expressly included in the Mauryan empire under Bindusara. It was conquered and annexed to his father's empire by Asoka, while he was yet a prince[6]. Later, as stated in the *Dipavamsa* he was appointed a viceroy at Ujjayini, which retained its position as an important viceregal headquarters under Asoka and his successors.[7] The last of these Mauryan kings, Brihadratha, was overthrown by his minister Pushyamitra Sunga, in 184 B. C. His son Agnimitra, the hero of Kalidasa's *Malavikagnimitram*, was his father's viceroy at Vidisha, and defeated the Vidarbhas beyond the Narmada.[8] And Vidarbha was divided between the two brothers Madhavasen and Yajnasen under the suzerainty of Pushyamitra.[9] This extended the sphere of influence of the Sungas to the areas south of the Narmada, including Nimar.

Out of this political turmoil Mahishmati might have emerged as an independent City State as has been inferred from numismatic evidences. Two coins, having the legend "Mahisati" (Mahismati) in the character of about 3rd century B. C., have been discovered at Ujjain and in a mound at Jwaleshwar Bedi on the ancient site of the place itself. It is interesting to note that the symbol of dots and four crescents, which appear on these coins, can be found exactly in the same crude form on a glass seal excavated at Maheshwar. It contains the motif of an elephant, and from stratigraphical position it can be assigned to the 4th century B. C.[10] It is not, however, possible to form an exact idea about the nature

1. R.S. Tripathi, History of Ancient India, p. 91.
2. The Vedic Age, p. 324; H. C. Ray Chaudhury, op. cit., p. 220.
3. Age of the Nandas and Mauryas, Ed. by K.A. Nilakanta Sastri, pp. 18-20.
4. Ibid., pp 233-35.
5. Cambridge History of India, Vol. I, p. 279.
6. H. Trivedi and V. Trivedi, *Madhya Bharat Ka Itihasa*, Vol. I, p. 209.
7. Cambridge History of India, Vol. I, p. 463.
8. *Malavikagnimitram*, Act V, Verse 20; B.M. Barua and Sinha, Bharhut Inscriptions, p. 3.
9. The Age of Imperial Unity, p. 93.
10. Journal of the Numismatic Society of India, Vol. XV, pp. 197-204; Vol. XVII, pp. 94-95.

or status of the City State from these two coins. Nevertheless, it might be presumed that the neighbouring tribal republics of the Punjab and Rajputana had some influence over this District.[1] It also shows what level of technical excellence Mahishmati must be have attained in that remote age in the art of glass making.

Situated on the cross roads from all directions the region around Mahishmati had tempted in all ages emperors and adventurers, who considered this land as the natural frontier to their dominions. There are definite proofs, both numismatic and epigraphical, that from the first century A. D. onwards it became the bone of contention between the Satavahanas of the South and the Western Kshatrapas of Malwa and Kathiawad.

There is a Jain tradition recorded in Merutunga's *Theravali* that these Saka Kshatrapas poured on Indian soil at the instigation of Kalakacharya, who had personal grudge against Gardavilla, the ruler of Ujjayini. The Scythians occupied the whole of Malwa. But only after 17 years they had to suffer a reverse at the hands of Gardavilla's son Vikramaditya, who drove away the foreigners from his paternal ancestry of Ujjayini. To commemorate this singular victory he is said to have founded the famous *Vikrama era* in 58 B. C.[2] According to some historians he was none other than the Vikramaditya of the *Kathasarit Sagara* and the *Vetala Panchavimsati* fame.

The Early Satavahanas

In the second half of the first century B. C., the Satavahanas rose to power in the trans—Vindhyan region. Satakarni I (C. 27-17 B. C.)[3] is stated to have conquered Western Malwa and the territory to the south of it including Anupa (the region round Mahishmati) and Vidarbha.[4] This would make West Nimar a part of the kingdom of the Early Satavahanas. They suffered a temporary eclipse in the first century A. D.

Nahapana, the greatest of the Saka Kshatraps of Western India, belonging to the Kshaharata line, in association with his son-in-law Ushavadata (Rishabhadatta), tore away Eastern and Western Malwa, the Narmada valley and the western part of Vidarbha from the Satavahana empire.[5] Nahapana, the second in line of the Kshaharata family, assumed the title of *Rajan* and extended his dominion from Ajmer region to Maharashtra and Nasik. The Nasik and Karla inscriptions of his son-in-law Ushavadata provide definite proof that his father-in-law conquered the whole of Malwa.[6]

1. Ibid., Vol. XV, p. 72.
2. Cambridge History of India, Vol. I, p. 480.
3. Some scholars fix the reign of Satakarni I between c., 194 and 185 B. C.
4. Nanaghat Inscription of Nayanika (Naganika), Luder's List No. 1112.
5. A Comprehensive History of India, Vol. II, pp. 308-10.
6. Journal of the Numismatic Society of India, Vol. XXI, Part I, p. 9; Vol. XIV, p. 4 and Vol. XIII, part I, p. 50.

The Satavahanas, however, soon rallied forces under the leadership of Gautamiputra Satakarni (C. 106-30 A.D.), "extirpated the Kshaharata dynasty" and recovered the lost territory. West Nimar at that time came under their domination, for the Nasik *prasasti* includes, among other territories, Anupa, (Southern Malwa including Mahishmati) Akara and Avanti (East and West Malwa) and Vidarbha.[1] He is also styled as lord of Vijha (Eastern Vindhyas) Achhavata (Rikshavata or Satpura mountains), etc.[2]

Nahapana had issued coins of both silver and copper before his downfall.[3] The recent discovery of the Jogalthembi hoard has established that Gautamiputra Satakarni restruck these silver coins with his own legend and symbol in order to commemorate his victory, and proclaim his power over these Kshatrapa territories.[4]

The discovery of two silver coins of Gautamiputra Yajnasri Satakarni[5] and Vasisthiputra Pulumayi[6] (C. 130-159 A.D.) at Vidisha indicates continued occupation of these regions by the Satavahanas.

The Kardamakas

The Satavahanas could not hold the territories for long. The Western Kshatrapas of the Kardamaka family, under Chashtana and his grandson Rudradaman asserted their supremacy and recovered some of the lost territories from the Satavahana rulers. Inscriptions discovered at Andhau in Kachchha show that Chashtana, the Mahakshatrapa, was ruling jointly with his grandson Rudradaman in the Saka year 52 (A. D. 130-31). In the Junagarh Inscription dated in the Saka year 72 (A. D. 150). Rudradaman is represented as the lord of Akra, Avanti, Anupa,[7] Surashtra, etc. Ptolemy also had recognised Tiastenes (Chashtana) as the master of Ozene (Ujjain) in his geographical account of 140 A.D. Rudradaman further claimed to have twice defeated Gautamiputra Satakarni whom, according to the Kanheri Inscription, he gave his daughter in marriage.[8] The early coins of Chashtana contain the symbol of "crescent and stars" to which a motif of a hill or a "chaitya" was added later on, signifying a probable extension of his power at the expense of the southern rulers.[9]

Nevertheless, the Western Kshatrapa rule lasted in thisregion till 395 A.D.[10] Sarvania hoard of Kshatrapa coins show that some of them were powerful enough to issue their own coinage.[11] Under these Saka rulers the whole of Malwa

1. Epigraphia Indica, Vol. VIII, pp. 60 ff.
2. Indian Antiquary, Vol. XLVII, 1918, pp. 150-51.
3. Journal of the Numismatic Society of India, Vol. XXI, Part I, p. 9.
4. Ibid., p.9; Vol. XIV, p. 4 and Vol. XIII, Part I, p. 50.
5. Report of the Archaeological Survey of India, 1913-14, p. 208.
6. Journal of the Numismatic Society of India, Vol. XIV, pp. 1-3; Vol. XV, Part I, pp. 70-73 and 106.
7. Epigraphia Indica, Vol. VII, Pt. I, p. 44; R. S. Tripathi, op. cit., p. 218.
8. Indian Historical Quarterly, Vol. IX, March 1933, p. 37.
9. The Age of Imperial Unity, p. 183.
10. Bombay Gazetteer, Vol. I, 1896, p. 24.
11. Journal of the Numismatic Society of India, Vol. X, Pt. II, pp. 132, 133 and 220.

experienced a cultural supremacy in Sanskrit language, music, polity and logic. Their matrimonial alliance with the contemporary ruling house of India effected an easy absorbtion of the Scythian element into the Indian society.[1]

From some stray references here and there it does not appear that the Western Kshatrapas had a peaceful uninterrupted reign for more than three centuries. It is believed that a line of Saka chiefs, including Isvaradatta and Shridharvarman, who belonged to a different dynasty, ruled in Mahishmati independently in the 3rd century A.D.

The Abhiras

On the withdrawal of the Satavahanas from the scence the Abhiras, who seem to have been vassals of the former, carved out an independent principality some time in the third century A.D. The *Puranas* say that the Abhiras who succeeded the Andras (i.e. the Satavahanas) in the Deccan were *Andhrabhrityas*[2] (servants of the Andhras).

Isvarasena, the founder of the Abhira dynasty was probably the originator of the *Abhira-era*, which later on came to be known as the *Kalachuri-Chedi-era*.[3] The Abhiras appeared to have extended their sway to the Anupa region. This finds corroboration in the use of *Abhira era* in Nimar and Malwa in the fourth and fifth centuries A.D.[4]

Two copeer-plate grants of Maharajas Svamidasa and Bhulunda from Indore prove that in the year of 67, and 107 (that is A.D. 317 and 357) Malwa passed under these feudatory rulers of the Abhira overlords.[5] The earlier branch of the Kalachuri rulers, who originally belonged to this Anupa region probably got it after their conquest over the Abhira monarchs. Of course, it is a controversial issue, as some scholars are inclined to consider these chiefs as vassals of the Gupta king Budhagupta and the year recorded in these copper plates as referring to the Gupta era.[6]

The Imperials Gupta

It could not be said with certainty whether the District was ever a part of the vast Vakataka kingdom, which had its nucleus in Vidarbha. But it is evident that with the rise of the Gupta power in the 4th century A.D. Malwa, including this District, came under its suzerainty.

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1. The Age of Imperial Unity, p. 184.
2. F. Pargiter, Dynasties of the Kali Age, p. 45.
3. B. Suryavamsi, The Abhiras—their History and Culture, p. 32; Epigraphia Indica, Vol. VIII, pp. 88-89.
4. Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum, Vol. IV, Pt. I, p. XXXVII.
5. Epigraphia Indica, Vol. XV, pp. 291-92; The Age of Imperial Unity, p. 222 and footnote no. 3.
6. The Age of Imperial Unity, p. 223 and footnote; Annals of Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute, Vol. XXVI, p. 159.

From the record of Samudra Gupta's vast dominion, which was bounded on the west by the territory of the "Madras" in the Punjab and by the Vindhya Hills on the south, the District of Nimar can be safely included in it. The Allahabad Pillar Inscription states that the Malavas who were a powerful local clan accepted his over-lordship and paid him tribute.[1] The Banmala hoard of 21 gold coins,[2] including 8 pieces of Samudra Gupta lends additional weight to this inference. The Abhiras are included in the Allahabad Pillar Inscription in the list of tribes subdued by Samudra Gupta but it is not certain whether the reference is to the Abhira kingdom of Khandesh.[3] It has been established beyond doubt, on the strength of the Udayagiri Cave Inscriptions of Virasena and Sanakanika Maharaja, and the Sanchi record of Amrakardeva dated 401-02 and 412-13 A.D., that by the middle of the 5th century A.D., the whole of Malwa was annexed by Chandra Gupta II (C. A. D. 375-414). Probably it formed the base of his military campaign against the Saka rulers of Gujarat and Kathiawad peninsula.[4]

To commemorate his victory over Malwa and Gujarat he issued a considerable number of silver and copper coins, the earliest hoard of which was a mere imitation of the Kshatrapa coins in fabric and design.[5] Some of his gold coins contain the portrait of Kumar Gupta who might have acted as *Yuvaraja* during his father's conquest of Malwa.[6] It is said that Chandra Gupta II was really the Vikramaditya of Ujjayini who established the Gupta era after his conquest of Malwa.[7]

There is evidence to show that the District was under the rule of an independent Chief, Maharaja Subandhu in the last quarter of the fifth century. His Barwani Copper plate grant issued from Mahishmati in the year 167 (468 A.D.) makes no reference to any Gupta suzerain.[8] This is clearly indicative of the declining fortunes of the Gupta power.

During the region of Kumara Gupta (C. 415-455 A.D.) and Skanda Gupta (C. 455-476 A.D.) the Gupta empire was faced, as the Bhitari Stone Pillar Inscription indicates, by a violent calamity *viz.*, the Huna invasion. But their whole life were engaged in a bitter struggle with these Hunas, who began to pour on their empire like irresistible torrents. At first they could avert the danger for the time being, but their exertions to stem the tide were not uniformly successful. Their repeated on-rush dealt a severe blow to the foundation of the Gupta empire and under

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1. Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum Vol. III, p. 14.
2. D. B. Diskalkar, Banmala Coins of the Gupta Dynasty.
3. Some scholars believe that the Abhiras referred to there may have belonged to Central or Western India.
4. Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum, Vol. III, pp. 21, 29 and 34; The Classical Age, p. 19.
5. Journal of the Numismatic Society of India, Vol. XII, Pt. II, p. 105.
6. Gazetteer of Bombay, 1896, p. 66.
7. Ibid., p. 67.
8. Epigraphia Indica, Vol. XIX, p. 281. V. V. Mirashi refers the date to the Abhira, or Kalachuri era, which makes the year 187 equivalent to 416-17 A.D. This would make Subandhu a contemporary of Kumar Gupta I, who might have allowed the kingdom of Mahishmati as a buffer state between his own dominions and the rising power of the Traikutakas. For details *see* Indian Historical Quarterly, Vol. XXI, pp. 82-83 and The Age of Imperial Unity, p. 222 and footnote No. 3.

their weak successors they continued their advances till during the reign of Budha Gupta Malwa was wrested by them under the leadership of Toramana, sometime after 484 A.D.[1] Taking advantage of these political disturbances several local dynasties tried to assert their independence or snatch a slice of the mighty Gupta empire. Among them was Maharaja Subandhu, (discussed earlier) who belonged to the dynasty of Maharajas Svamidasa, Bhulunda and Rudradasa.

Of the Hunas, who inflicted several defeats on the Gupta monarchs, we have records of two of their rulers. They were Toramana, the father and Mihirakula, the son. Toramana could establish himself at Eran (in modern Sagar district) while his son Mihirakula was described by Hiuen Tsang as an intrepid man of great ability and capable of bringing all the neighbouring states under his vassalage.[2] They had an undisturbed rule of 22 years during which they issued the so called Gadhia coins of the transitional type (Uruli Hoard).[3]

For a time, the Hunas seemed to succeed. But they were not destined to enjoy success for long. Mihirakula met his doom at the hands of Narsimha Gupta Baladitya, the Gupta ruler, and Yashodharman of Mandsaur, belonging to the Aulikar dynasty. According to his two pillar inscriptions at Mandsaur, he carried his victorious arms from the Himalaya in the north to the Mahendra Mountain (Ganjam District) in the south and from the Arabian Sea in the west to the Brahmaputra river in the east.[4]

The Kalachuris

The Vakataka Empire disappeared by *circa* 540 A.D. About the same time Yashodharman, after blazing a meteoric brilliance, vanished into darkness. In these political conditions the Early Kalachuris rose into prominence in this area in the second half of the sixth century, with their capital at Mahishmati. While 'Kalachuri' is the most usual style-and that most familiar to modern historians-other variants like Kalachchuri, Katatsuri, Kalachuti, Kalachurya, Kalichuri are also known.

The name Kalachuri is held to be non-Sanskritic in origin and has indeed been equated with the Turkish word *Kuluchur*, indicating an office of high rank. This, if correct, would point to a foreign origin of the dynasty, and they may well have entered India with the Hunas and Gurjaras.[5] Though the Early Kalachuris do not call themselves Haihayas in their grants, but in later times the family claimed descent from the Haihaya king Arjuna, son of Kritivirya, who, according to traditions preserved in the Epics and the *Puranas*, ruled in the

1. R. C. Majumdar and A. S. Altekar, The Vakataka—Gupta Age, p. 191.
2. Indian Antiquary, May 1919, p. 66.
3. Journal of the Numismatic Society of India, Vol. VIII, Pt. I, p. 69-70.
4. Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum, Vol. III, p. 146.
5. Proceedings, Indian History Congress., 1943, pp. 44-45. Fleet connects them with Arjunayas of Samudra Gupta's Allahabad Pillar Inscription (Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum, Vol. III, p. 10), while Hiralal identifies them with Traikutakas (Annals of Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute, Vol. IX, pp. 283-84). For mythological account of the Kalachuris *see* Joyanaka's *Prithvirajavijaya*, verses 110-130.

Anupa country on the Narmada, with Mahishmati as his capital.[1] The Kalachuris used an era called Kalachuri or Chedi *samvat*, according to which reckoning commenced from 306 Vikram Samvat, (the 25th September 249 A.D.). This era, which continued in use for several centuries, and in countries widely separated, originated in western India from the reign of Abhira king Isvarasena.[2]

From the epigraphic records, names of three Kalachuri kings, Krishnaraja, his son Sankaragana and the latter's son Buddharaja are known. The dynasty seems to have been founded by Krishnaraja's father, but neither his name nor his date is known to us. The real founder of the greatness of the dynasty was Krishnaraja (Circa 550-575 A.D.) whose silver coins bearing the legend *Paramamahesvara* Krishnarajah and a figure of a Nandi (bull) have been discovered in such distant parts as Rajasthan, Malwa, Maharashtra, Bombay and Salsette Islands, and districts of Betul and Amaravati. The figure of *Nandi* on the coins shows that the Kalachuris were devotees of Pasupati Siva, and their discovery in such distant areas proves that they ruled over a fairly large territory comprising Gujarat, Maharashtra, Vidarbha and Malwa.

Krishnaraja's son and successor, Sankaragana (C. 575-600), a powerful monarch, is known from several records. His own Abhona Plates of 595 A.D., found in Nasik District, were issued from his camp at Ujjain and record the donation of land in a village in that district. The Abhona Plates, which describe him as lord of the entire land bounded by the eastern and western seas,[3] show that Sankaragana ruled over a vast empire, extending from Malwa to Maharashtra.

Buddharaja, son of Sankaragana succeeded to the Kalachuri throne sometime in 600 A.D. The following year he was faced with an invasion from the Chalukya ruler, Mangalesa. The latter is stated to have completely routed Buddharaja, who fled leaving his whole treasure behind him.[4] Buddharaja, however, seems to have recovered his position and continued his hold over the whole country from Gujarat to Maharashtra. Buddharaja's successors are not known to us. They, probably, continued to rule at Mahishmati in a state of servitude under the Chalukyas. But they did not remain in this subordinate position for long. An illustrious member of the Kalachuri family, named Vamaraja (C. 675-700) succeeded in carving out a large principality extending from the Gomati in the north to the Narmada in the south, in the Dahal country, with capital at Tripuri, at the close of the seventh century. Since the time of Vamaraja, the Kalachuris came to be known as lords of the Chedi country.

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1. Ancient Indian Historical Traditions, p. 41.
2. This subject has been exhaustively treated by V. V. Mirashi in Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum, Vol. IV, Pt. 1, pp. 1-XXX.
3. Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum, Vol. IV, Pt. I, p. 43.
4. Indian Antiquary, Vol. XIX, pp. 17-18; Vol. VII, p. 161 ff; and Epigraphia Indica, Vol. VI, p. 8.

The Vardhana and Chalukya Dynasties

For a time the suzerainty of India was practically divided between two great monarchs, Harsha Vardhana (606-647 A.D.) and the Chalukya rulers Pulakesin II (C. 610-642 A.D.), best known by his *biruda* Satyasraya. Pulakesin II of the Chalukya House of Badami vied with Harsha in the extent of his conquests and raised himself to the rank of lord paramount of the south,[1] as Harsha was of the north. The sway of Harsha extended from the Himalayas to the river Narmada,[2] indicating that the northern part of West Nimar was included in the Vardhana empire. That the whole of the District south of the Narmada, was part of the Chalukya kingdom is evident from the fact that the Narmada formed the northern limits of Pulakesin's empire.[3]

The northern king could not willingly endure the existence of so powerful a rival and essayed to everthrow him. And although, as Hiuen Tsang says, Harsha gathered troops from the five Indios, and summoned the best leaders from all countries, and himself went at the head of his army to punish and subdue these people, he could not conquer the Chalukyas.[4]

Pulakesin guarded the passes on the Narmada so effectively that Harsha was constrained to retire discomfited, and to accept that river as his frontier. The Chinese pillgrim's account of this great conflict between the two paramount sovereigns is corroborated by epigraphic evidence. It is claimed that Harsha's huge elephants fell in the battle[5] and that after his victory, Pulakesin assumed the title of *Paramesvara.*[6] The date of this battle is very controversial. Different scholars have suggested different dates varying between A.D. 620 and 630.[7]

The Rashtrakutas

Hereafter, there is a hiatus in the history of West Nimar until we reach the Rastrakuta epoch. Dantidurga (C. 733-758 A.D.), a feudatory of the Chalukyas of Badami, embarking on a bold career of conquest, enlarged his small patrimony in Vidarbha region into a big empire and thus laid foundation of the future greatness of the Imperial Rashtrakuta dynsty. He first marched against Malwa in A.D. 747 and proclaimed its conquest by performing *Hiranyagarbhadana* ceremony at Ujjain. By about the middle of the eighth century Dantidurga became master of the central and southern Gujarat and the whole of Madhya Pradesh and Vidarbha.[8]

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1. Epigraphia Indica, Vol. V, p. 8.
2. R.K. Mookerji, Harsha, p. 43; Vincent Smith, Early History of India, p. 341. But this is disputed by R.C. Majumdar who rather believes that Harsha's suzerainty did not extend much to the south of the Yamuna.
3. R.K. Mookerji, op. cit., p. 34.
4. Travels of Hiouen Thsang, Tr. by Samuel Beal, Pt. IV, p. 450; *see* also Watter's Yuan Chwang, p. 239.
5. Epigraphia Indica, Vol. VI, p. 10.
6. Indian Antiquary, Vol. VI, p. 87; Vol. VIII, p. 244; Vol IX, p. 125 and Vol. XI, p. 68.
7. The Classical Age, pp. 109 and 237.
8. The Age of Imperial Kanauj, p. 2.

It is, therefore, only reasonable to assume that West Nimar formed part of the Rastrakuta Empire. For the next two centuries, till 972 A.D., at least the southern part of the District continued under the sovereignty of the Rashtrakutas, when the Paramara ruler Siyak II not only drove the Rashtrakutas out of these regions but sacked their capital Malkhed.[1]

The Gurjara-Pratiharas

Early in the eighth century A.D. one branch of the Gurjara-Pratihara dynasty became the hereditary rulers of Malwa. Avanti was, probably, their home territory as the scion of this family, Vatsaraja, is referred to in a copper-plate inscription as the ruler of Avanti.[2] Probably these Gurjaras came from the same ethnic stock as the White Hunas, for they are often mentioned together in inscriptions and other records.[3] Their kingdom seems to have extended upto the Narmada, bordering the Rashtrakuta dominion.[4] Thus the northern part of the District seems to have been included in the realm of the Gurjara-Pratihar kingdom. According to the Gwalior Eulogy of Bhoja Gurjara, which contains a reliable genealogy of this dynasty, Nagabhatta I, its first known ruler came to throne in about 756 A.D. He repulsed an attack of the Mlechchha army (i.e., the Arabs) on Uzain or Ujjayini and thus saved Northern India from the Muslims.[5] Malwa had to pass through great vicissitudes on account of a ceaseless conflict between the Gurjara-Pratiharas and the Rashtrakutas.

The Paramaras

From a number of ruined temples at Un, which were once built by the Paramara ruler Udayaditya and from the discovery of a copper-plate grant from the temple of Siddhesvara, issued by Devapala of the same dynasty from his residence at Mahismati, it can be safely concluded, that after the disintegration of the Pratihara empire West Nimar passed under the dynastic rule of the Parmara monarchs, shortly before 812 A.D. From then onwards, till the middle of the 13th century, first the north of the District and later, perhaps, the entire District was included in the Paramara kingdom. The Paramara kings were 24 in number and their reign covers a period of nearly four hundred years; after that their royal insignia was snatched away by the Muhammadans. Their regal chair was originally fixed at Ujjayini and remained so till Vairisimha II conquered Dhara and shifted his capital there.

The founder of the Paramara dynasty, named Upendra, and the early Paramara rulers are known to have been vassals of the Rashtrakutas.[6] Probably shortly before 812 A.D. the Rashtrakuta ruler Govinda III snatched Malwa from Pratihara Nagabhatta II, and placed one of his Paramara followers, Upendra

1. Ibid, pp. 3-16
2. Epigraphia Indica, Vol. VIII, p. 2.
3. Journal of the Numismatic Society of India, Vol. III, Pt. I, p. 69; R.S. Tripathi, op. cit., pp. 318-319; Indian Historical Quarterly, Vol. X, p. 337.
4. D.C. Ganguly, History of the Paramara Dynasty, p. 11.
5. Epigraphia Indica, Vol. XVIII, p. 103.
6. The Age of Imperial Kanauj, pp. 93-94.

or Krishnaraja on its throne. The family lost it when it was reconquered by the Pratihara dynasty and kept in possession till 946 A.D. Again, with the help offered by the Rashtrakuta king Krishna III, Vairisimha II of the same family could recover Malwa. The Udaipur Eulogy states that Vairisimha proved *by the strength of his sword that Dhara belonged to him, alluding to his acquisition of Dhar where the capital was shifted afterward. His son Siyaka II, according to the land grants of Vakpati Munja, completely defeated their overlord* Kotting of the Rashtrakuta dynasty in 972 A.D. and founded an independent kingdom of Malwa, bounded by the Godavari, Banswara region, Vidisha and Sabarmati on the south, north east and west, respectively.

He was succeeded by his adopted son Munja also known as *Utpala Vakpatiraja* II, *Prithvi Vallava* and *Amoghavarsha*. He extended his father's empire by his singular conquests over Kalachuri Yuvarajadeva, Mularaja of Anhilpataka, the Guhilas of Medapata, the Hunas of Hunamandala and the-Chahamana of Naddula.[1] According to the Udaipur *prasasti* be made the Latas, Karnatas, Cholas and Keralas bow to his steel.[2] As far as the account of Merutunga goes, Munja had frustrated the attempts of Tailapa II of the Chalukya dynasty to conquer Malwa not less than six times. But in his 7th attempt Vakpati himself was killed probably between 993-998 A.D. With Munja's accession a new era had dawned upon Malwa, a new spirit spread over every sphere of life and the country grew rich in wealth and culture. Gradually Malwa asserted itself as a strong nation. His court was adorned with poets like Dhananjaya, Halayudha, Dhanika and Padmagupta. He built several beautiful temples and excavated a good number of tanks.

The next king was Sindhuraja, whose achievements against a Huna prince, and the Kalachuris of Tummana and Chalukyas of Lata have been immortalised by Padmagupta in his "*Navasahasanka Charita.*"

He was followed by his illustrious son Bhoja (C. 1010-55 A.D.), the most striking and versatile Paramara ruler. His name became a household word in India as a scholar, writer and builder. In military heroism also he was inferior to none of his contemporary rulers. From the evidence of the Betma and Banswara grants it seems quite likely that immediately after his accession Bhoja invaded the Deccan to avenge the execution of his uncle or grand father Munja, killed Vikramaditya V and occupied Konkana, at least for some time. But the Miraj Plate of Jayasimha testifies that before 1024 A.D. he could reconquer it finally from the Paramara ruler. With almost all the neighbouring prices *viz.*, the Chandellas of Jajhoti, the Kachchhapaghatas of Gwalior, the Rashtrakutas of Kanauj, the Chahamanas of Sakambhari, the Chaulukyas of Gujarata, the Chedis of Tripuri and the Chalukyas of the Deccan, he came into conflict. It brought him glory and credit but little permanent acquisition.

1. D.C. Ganguly, op. cit., pp. 50-54.
2. R.S. Tripathi, op. cit., p. 180.

In the latter part of his life the Chaulukya king Bhima and the Kalachuri ruler Gangeyadeva made a joint attack on Malwa from the east and the west and sacked the capital. During this unequal struggle Bhoja died in about 1055 A.D. and his kingdom was divided between Gujarata and Dahala.[1]

Bhoja was not only a patron of learning, he also studied astronomy, *alankara* (poetics) architecture, asceticism and grammar seriously, and left authoritative treaties on each of these subjects. The Univerisity which he established at Dhar for Sanskrit studies is still called The Bhoja Shala though converted into a mosque by Kamal Maula. The ruined dam of the Bhojpur lake is also an exquisite example of hydraulic engineering.

Bhoja was succeeded according to the Mandhata Plates, by his son Jayasimha. He got back his throne through the good grace of Vikramaditya VI of the Deccan, who forced the Chaulukyas and the Kalachuris to leave Malwa, only to lose it again to Somesvara II of the south and Karna of the Gujarata, and was killed while offering resistance. Udayaditya, a brother or cousin of Bhoja, who ruled from 1080 to 1090 A.D., recovered Malwa after inflicting a crushing defeat on his rivals. His inscriptions are dated A.D. 1080 and 1086 according to which his kingdom was extended at least upto the Nimar District.[2] The "Sarpabandha" inscription, which can be found in a temple at Un, gives definite proof that the kingdom of this Paramara king included West-Nimar.[3]

The independence of Malwa won by Udayaditya was short lived; soon the powerful Chaulukya king Siddharaja Jayasimha incorporated Malwa within his own dominion and assumed the proud title of *Avantinatha*. His Jain minister was appointed to administer the region on his behalf.[4] With this the imperial authority of the Paramara came to an end. Udayaditya's son and grandson Naravarmanadeva and Yasovarman were involved in this misfortune. The next king Jayavarman recovered Malwa sometime after 1138 A.D. but erelong lost it to Chaulukya Jagadekamalla and Hoyasala Narsimha II, who placed one Ballal on its throne. In A.D. 1143 Kumarapala annexed the whole of Malwa to his kingdom, and kept it under his dynastic rule for the next twenty years.

During this period the princes of the Paramara dynasty designated as *Mahakumaras* ruled over Nimar, Bhopal, Hoshangabad and Khandesh as petty rulers. Some time in the seventies of the twelfth century, Vindhyavarman recovered Malwa from the Chalukyas.[5] The Paramaras then continued to hold

1. Epigraphia Indica, Vol. III, p. 46.
2. The Struggle for Empire, p. 68.
3. Indore State Gazetteer, 1931, p. 69.
4. Journal of the U.P. Historical Society, Vol. VI, Pt. I—(An Attempt at a Genealogy of the Parmaras of Malwa).
5. The Struggle for Empire, p. 70.

the District, upto at least 1225 A.D. This is indicated by a copper-plate from the Siddhesvara temple, wherein it is stated that the royal grant was issued from Devapala's residence at *Mahishmati*.

From 1218 onwards Malwa became a target of repeated Muslim invesions. The first raid by Sultan Iltutmish occurred during Devapala's reign, repeated by Sultan Balban in 1250, when king Jaitugi was on the throne. In 1283 it was invaded by Sultan Jalaluddin and ultimately passed on to the Muslim hands after the last Parmara ruler Mahlak Deo was killed by Ala-ud-din Khalji's General Ain-ul-Mulk in 1305.

Reign of Petty Chiefs

From the point of view of authentic history a dark age enveloped the District after the extinction of the Paramara House. It was no longer a component part of a single administrative machinery. A number of petty kingdoms sprang up on the ruins of the declining empire. The first Muslim incursion occurred in West Nimar in 1296 when Ala-ud-din Khalji, while returning from Devagiri invaded Khandesh.[1]

At that time Khandesh was held by a Rajput Chief styled as the Raja of Khandesh, who would seem to have been the Chauhan ruler Rao Chand of Asirgarh. He is said to have had an army of 40,000 to 50,000.[2] Later, in 1311 A.D., Malik Kafur halted at Khargone during the course of his Deccan campaign.[3] Neither Ala-ud-din's first appearance on its soil, nor the assassination of the Paramara King Mahlak Deo by Ain-ul-Mulk in 1305, nor even Malik Kafur's march through the District in 1311 could much affect the destiny of these local sovereign states.

As far as traditions can be relied upon the Ahir or Guali Rajas ruled over the greater part of Nimar in the 14th century.[4] One Guali Raja, Bija, is said to have built the famous fort of Bijagarh in the 13th or 14th century A.D. The origin of these Ahir rulers is shrouded in obscurity. They might have been descendants of the Yadavas of Devagiri or might have emigrated from Ahirwara, the tract between Gwalior and Jhansi. In any case they belonged to the Abhiras of Ptolemy.[5] A migration of the Abhiras from Ptolemy's Abhiria in Upper Sindh to Nasik is not beyond possibility. King Isvardatta, perhaps a scion of the Abhira rulers of the Nasik inscription, added to his dominion Gujarat, Kathiwada and part of the Deccan.[6]

Other contemporary sovereigns, enjoying regal splendour of tiny states were the Rathors of Bhamgarh and Katkut, the Sesodias of Barwani and the

1. The Delhi Sultanate, p. 47. According to Firishta the date is 1294.
2. Firishta, Tr. by Briggs, Vol. I, p. 307.
3. K.S. Lal, *Khalji Vamsa Ka Itihas*, p. 241.
4. Indore State Gazetteer, 1931, p. 491.
5. Ibid.
6. Bombay Gazetteer, Vol. I, Pt. I, p. 52.

Tonwaras of Chainpur.[1] The name of King Briddhipaldeo occurs in an inscription of Katkut dated 1700 Samvat.[2] Similarly, according to an inscription in Persian script at the small fort of Chainpur, Rana Raibha Singh was the zamindar of that place.[3] The Sisodias of Barwani trace their origin from Bappa Rawal, the founder of the Mewar dynasty. One of his descendants established himself at Avasgarh about 12th or 14th century. Parsan Singh, a ruler of this line, saw his kingdom seized by the Muhammadans about circa 1450. The state was restored to him only after his conversion into Islamic faith.[4] He, however, soon after his restoration abdicated in favour of his son, who had not been converted to Islam with him. At the same time the Bhilala Chief of Bhiligarh snatched for himself a slice of the District. These Bhilalas are mixed Bhil and Rajput tribes. They claim their descent from Rajputs who formed marriage connections with Bhil women. They are considered to be of high status than their neighbours, and have thus established themselves as a new social and political entity.[5] The Bhilala Chiefs of Omkar Mandhata of East Nimar profess themselves as belonging to this dynasty. According to folk-lore the Gond and Bhat rulers reigned in Balakwara and Kasrawad, respectively.[6]

As stated earlier, Malwa was annexed to the Khalji empire in 1305 as one of its provinces. These petty chiefs, therefore, must have owed nominal allegiance to the Governors of the Khalji and Tughluq Sultans of Delhi till the end of the 14th century.[7] Consequent upon Taimur's invasion the Tughluq empire disintegrated and independent principalities were established in many parts of the country. Dilwar Khan Ghuri, the Governor of Malwa, among others, declared independence and assumed paraphernalia of royalty in 1401.[8]

Sultans of Malwa

From then on, the north of the District remained part of Malwa kingdom. Under some of these mighty rulers Malwa became so strong that it affected occasionally the course of the Sultanate history; at one stage it even tried to swallow up the Delhi Sultanate itself. The Saiyyad and the Lodi rulers had to remain in perpetual vigilance against these regional lords.[9]

Dilwar died in 1405, probably having been poisoned by his son Alp Khan who succeeded him to the throne as Hushang Shah. This heinous patricide enraged Sultan Muzaffar of Gujarat to such an extent that he marched against the Malwa ruler, took him prisoner and appointed his own brother Nasir Khan in command over the whole province. The latter's tyranny soon exhausted the

1. Indore State Gazetteer, 1931, pp. 491-92.
2. Ibid., p. 610.
3. Ibid., p. 379.
4. Barwani State Gazetteer, p. 3.
5. Census of India, 1931, Vol. XX, Part I, p. 248.
6. Indore State Gazetteer, 1931, p. 512.
7. Mahdi Hussain, Tughlaq Dynasty, pp. 105-07; K.S. Lal, op. cit., pp. 165 and 256.
8. Tabaqat-i-Akbari, Tr. by B. De, Vol. III, p. 468; Firishta, Vol. I, p. 282.
9. K.S. Lal, Twilight of the Sultanate, p. 61.

patience of his subjects and they raised Musa, a cousin of Hushang, to the throne.

The Gujarat ruler released Hushang, despatched him to Malwa in company with his own son Ahmad Khan and restored him to his paternal throne.[1] Hushang shifted his capital to Mandu from Dhar, assumed all paraphernalias of royalty and struck coins in his name.[2]

During the reign of Sultan Mahmud II, the 7th Malwa ruler, Malwa was invaded by Rana Sanga and a crushing defeat was inflicted on the ruler of Malwa. The defeated sovereign was captured and carried away to Chitor by the Rana. There he was treated with utmost generosity and finally reinstated to his throne.[3] The unwise monarch, however, could not secure the same magnanimity from the ruler of Gujarat, Bahadur Shah, when he granted asylum to Chand Khan, his rival to the throne of Gujarat. Bahadur advanced towards Malwa, captured the fort of Mandu with its royal inmates and brought the province under his possession in 1531.[4] For the duration of Bahadur Shah's reign Malwa remained a province of Gujarat. Henceforth, for a period of a little more than three decades her history became a long painful story of struggle, for re-establishment of her independence on the one side and the total domination by the Imperial power of Delhi on the other, till the final conquest of Malwa by Akbar in 1562 A.D. closed the issue.

Bahadur Shah of Gujarat had divided the whole of Malwa into several parts and distributed those slices among his feudal chiefs.[5] On 25 April, 1535, he fled to Mandu with Malla, the Governor and others, chased by Humayun. Bahadur escaped to Khandesh under cover of darkness and his dominion fell to the Mughal Emperor.[6] For one year Humayun stayed at Mandu and the whole province remained in possession of the Chaghatai rulers.[7] At the time of his departure Bhopal Rai was holding the territory.

Taking advantage of the confusion created after Bahadur Shah's death and the departure of the Mughal monarch, Malla Khan assumed the title Qadir Khan and seized the government of Malwa. His power went on increasing until all the landlords of the neighbouring region acknowledged his allegiance and paid him tribute.[8] Qadir Khan kept the province under his domination for about six years, after which he fled at the approach of Sher Shah.[9] The Pathan Emperor entrusted to Shuja Khan the administration of Malwa,[10] who asserted independence under Mubariz Khan.[11]

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1. Ain-i-Akbari, Tr. by Jarrett, Vol. II, pp. 228-29.
2. Tabaqat-i-Akbari, Vol. III, p. 468.
3. Ain-i-Akbari, Tr. by Jarrett, Vol. II, p. 230.
4. The Delhi Sultanate, p. 186.
5. Firishta, Vol. III, p. 270.
6. Cambridge History of India, Vol. III, p. 331.
7. Tabaqat-i-Akbari, Vol. III, p. 617.
8. Ibid.
9. Ibid., p. 620.
10. Firishta, Vol. III, p. 272.
11. Ain-i-Akbari, Vol. II, p. 231.

He was succeeded by his eldest son Bayazid. He assumed the title Baz Bahadur and took possession of his whole patrimony. With the defeat of this ruler by Akbar's generals Pir Muhammad Khan and Adham Khan in March 1561 the fertile province was annexed to the imperial dominions of the Mughals.[1] Baz Bahadur reigned over Malwa for 16 years. He entertained a great passion for the company of beautiful ladies and expert musicians. His Hindu wife Rupmati combined in herself both these qualities.

The Faruqi Dynasty

While the major portion of the District included in the Malwa Sultanate was thus experiencing a tumultous existence, the southern most part included in the little kingdom of Khandesh was also facing similar vicissitudes. Under the Faruqi rulers the little kingdom of Khandesh had little to do with the politics of the Delhi Sultanate. Nevertheless, during its long rule of about 230 years this royal house was constantly at wars with its powerful neighbours of Malwa, Gujarat, and Bahamani kingdom; with the result that the Faruqis were almost always under their suzerainty. An attempt to throw off one's yoke quickly brought them into the arms of another. The possession of the impregnable fort of Asir emboldened these petty Faruqi monarchs where they invariably took shelter when attacked from outside.

Malik Raja

The founder of the Faruqi kingdom of Khandesh, Malik Raja or Raja Ahmad Faruqi, was the son of Khan Jahan, whose forefathers were among the nobles of Ala-ud-din Khalji and Muhammad Tughluq, and who himself was an officer of note during the latter's reign.[2] His dynasty was distinguished by the epithet 'Faruqi' for he claimed descent from the second Caliph, Umar Faruqi.[3] While a-hunting Firuz Tughluq was once served with a humble meal by this soldier of fortune. In return, as a token of royal gratitude, a command of 2000 horse and a small fief on the borders of Baglana were conferred on him in the year 1370 A.D. Soon the latter won a victory over Baharji, the Rathor Raja of Baglana, compelled him to acknowlege the suzerainty of the Delhi Sultan and himself sent to him 15 elephants. This tribute was amply rewarded by his promotion to the command of 3000 horse and to the governorship of the whole province of Khandesh with the title of *Sipah Salar* (Commander-in-Chief) on him. Towards the end of the reign of Firuz Tughluq this enterprising governor first stopped payment of the annual tribute to the Delhi Court in 1382, and subsequently in 1398 declared independence.[4]

He married his son Nasir Khan to the daughter of Dilawar Shah of Malwa and relying on this matrimonial support invaded Gujarat, only to be

1. Tabaqat-i-Akbari, Vol. II, pp. 251-53.
2. Firishta, Vol. IV, p. 280. Others are of the view that Malik Raja was the son of Khwaja Jahan, minister of the founder of the Bahmani dynasty. For details *see* Indian Antiquary, 1918, Vol. XLVII, pp. 113-14.
3. Cambridge History of India, Vol. III, p. 294.
4. Indian Antiquary, 1918, Vol. XLVII, p. 113.

beaten back. After this defeat Malik Raja devoted himself in developing his kingdom. His spiritual preceptor Zain-Ud-din of Daulatabad conferred on him "the garb of desire and assent" which became the royal insignia of his descendants.[1] He was by nature peaceful and tolerant towards the Hindus. To bring about a higher standard of economic prosperity among all his subjects he used to encourage generously agriculture, industries, and the arts of civilization.[2]

Before his death in 1399 A.D. Malik Raja nominated his eldest son Nasir-Khan as his successor and gave him the robe. But to his younger son Iftikar he gave the fort and the district of Thalner[3]. Such a division of the tiny State brought about a clash between the two brothers in 1417, when Nasir, assisted by Hushang Shah of Malwa, captured the fort of Thalner and imprisoned his weaker brother. King Ahmad of Gujarat took up the cause of the latter and put the elder brother at bay. Peace was concluded on Nasir's acknowledging the sovereignty of Gujarat. Ahmad bestowed on the subdued ruler the hereditary title of 'Khan', the White Canopy and the Scarlet Pavilion[4]. From this date the relation between Malwa and Khandesh became estranged.

Some time before this fraternal dispute, Nasir Khan captured the famous fort of Asirgarh by extreme meanness and foul treachery from its Hindu chieftain.[5] Malik Nasir thereafter shifted his capital to Asirgarh. There was great jubilation among the Muslims; even the great Muhammadan saint Jain-uddin came down from Daulatabad upto the eastern bank of the Tapti to offer his felicitation.

As the saint was reluctant to cross the river the town of Zainabad, named after the preceptor, was founded on the spot to commemorate the event. On the western bank itself Nasir constructed the famous city of Burhanpur in memory of saint Burhan-ud-din.

Nasir tried to strengthen his position by marrying his daughter Agha Zainab with the crown prince of the Bahamani kingdom in 1429. But the union engendered strife after a few years. The little state of Khandesh was disastrously wrosted by this powerful neighbour and came under the vassalage of Gujarat.[7] Nasir was a patron of learning and he invited learned men from all parts for the promotion of literature[8] in his own territory.

Adil Khan II

For about two decades after the death of this monarch in 1437, history of Khandesh remained uneventful and dull. Two Faruqi kings Miran Adil Khan

1. The Delhi Sultanate, pp. 169-70.
2. Ishwari Prasad, History of Mediaeval India, p. 339.
3. Firishta, Vol. III, p. 283.
4. The Delhi Sultanate, p. 170.
5. Firishta, Vol. III, pp. 289-291.
6 Ibid.
7. The Indian Antiquary, 1918, Vol. XLVII, pp. 117-18,
8. Firishta, Vol. III, p. 286,

(1437-41) and Miran Mubarak (1441-57) ruled over Khandesh during this period. With the accession of Adil Khan II in 1457 it entered into a glorious age. By the power of his arms and wisdom of his brain the most famous prince of this royal lineage could bring for his subjects that prosperity which they had never seen. He compelled the neighbouring Rajas of Gondwana and Garha-Mandla to pay him tribute but himself refused to pay the same to the Gujarat court. As a consequence Mahmud Begarha marched into Khandesh and exacted the total arrears.

Henceforth Adil maintained cordiality with Gujarat.[1] For his successful expedition upto Jharkhand (modern Chota-Nagpur) he was known as the Jharkhandi Sultan. After these consolidations he exerted all his energy to bring about administrative efficiency and cultural refinement. He made his country free from the depredations of Kolis and Bhils and thus all roads in his dominion became safe for travellers.[2] During his rule the fortification of Asirgarh was considerably strengthened, to which the lower fort of Malaigarh has added.[3] His other notable building achievements were the citadel and mosque[4] of Burhanpur and a number of fine palaces.

Incidentally it may be mentioned that from the Sanskrit inscription of Adil Shah at the Juma Masjid, Rai Bahadur Hiralal thinks that the Faruqi kings imbibed a good deal of Hindu sentiment, at least they had tremendous faith in Hindu astrology. He believed that there were certain sections of Hindus who had Muslim preceptors (Pirzadas) and also many Muslims who strictly followed the Hindu caste system. During the reign of the Faruqis these Hindu disciples of Muslim *gurus* were admitted to the Juma Masjid for prayers.[5]

Daud Khan and Adil Khan III

Adil was succeeded by his brother Daud Khan (1503-10) who was compelled to seek aid from Malwa to defend his country from Ahmad Nizam Shah's invasion.

In return Khandesh had to acknowledge the paramountcy of the king of Mandu. His son Ghazni Khan died without issue, and the whole country fell into a state of confusion. Two opponent factions, supporting two claimants to the throne, contended among themselves for power. These factious fights were put to an end when Adil Khan III or A'zam Humayun, grandson of both Nasir Khan and Sultan Mahmud Beghara of Gujarat, snatched the royal sceptre of Khandesh with the latter's support. It is known from the Sanskrit inscription at the Asirgarh fort that he was as popular among his subjects as the full moon to the lotus or the sun to the peasant.[6] Adil Khan proved to be a man

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1. The Delhi Sultanate, p. 172.
2. The Indian Antiquary, 1918, Vol. XLVII, p. 118.
3. Nimar District Gazetteer, p. 28.
4. Epigraphia Indo-Moslemica, 1925-26, p. 1.
5. Hiralal, Inscriptions in C.P. and Berar, p. 79.
6. Epigraphia Indo-Moslemica, 1925-26, p. 2.

of great foresight. Inspite of terrible odds, he defended his kingdom and safeguarded his interests by cementing his alliance with Gujarat by marrying the daughter of Muzaffar Shah, brother of Mahmud Begarha of Gujarat.[1] He died in 1520.

Miran Muhammad Khan

His son and successor Muhammad I was summoned to the throne of Gujarat but he died on his way to its capital.[2] During his reign Humayun visited Burhanpur and Asirgarh. The Faruqi king begged Humayun to spare his country the ravages of war. Fortunately, however, the Mughal operations were confined only to a military promenade, when Humayun returned to Mandu.[3]

Mubarak Khan II (1537-66)

It was in the reign of his brother Mubarak that the army, under the command of Pir Muhammad, pursued Baz Bahadur upto Burhanpur. The brutal force of the Mughal commander committed the most terrible atrocities in Khandesh. The country was plundered and wasted and the inhabitants were murdered indiscriminately without regard to their age, sex, religion or vocation.[4] While retreating with the booty the Mughal army was massacred by the rulers of Malwa and Khandesh and their general was drowned in the river. In 1564 Akbar himself captured the fort of Bijagarh. Mubarak Khan concluded a treaty by giving his daughter in marriage to the Mughal Emperor, with the fort as dowry to the bride.[5] Henceforth the foreign policy of the state passed under the control of the Delhi Court, and the Khandesh ruler was placed on duty to supply a contingent of troops whenever the Mughal army was in operation in near proximity.

Miran Muhammad and Raja Ali Khan

Miran Muhammad II's reign (1566-76) was one of continued disaster. On Miran's death Raja Ali Khan (1576-96), brother of Miran Muhammad dropped the title Shah and acknowledged the suzerainty of Akbar. He was a talented man, wise, just, prudent and brave. Firishta tells us that "he was idol of his people."[6] He gave his daughter in marriage to the Mughal prince Murad and accompanied him in his invasion of the Deccan. But his successor Bahadur Khan defied Akbar by holding the fort of Asir against him.

Akbar, who was camping at Burhanpur, sent a powerful army in February, 1600, with several able generals to besiege Asirgarh.[7] Early in March he crossed the Narmada, and on 10 March encamped at Bijagarh. The Faruqi king was not inclined to surrender the fort. This was coveyed to Akbar by Abul

1. Firishta, Vol. IV, p. 304.
2. Cambridge History of India, Vol. III, p. 313.
3. Ibid., p. 333.
4. Indian Antiquary, 1918, Vol. XLVIII, p. 124.
5. Ibid., p. 141; A.L. Shrivastava, Akbar the Great, Vol. I, p. 418.
6. Firishta, Vol. IV, pp. 321-322.
7. Elliot and Dowson, History of India as Told by Its Own Historians, Vol. VI, pp. 135-36.

Fazl on March 20, while the former was still at Bijagarh. So Akbar once again marched towards Burhanpur and reached there on 31 March. The next day the Mughal army was sent to invest Asirgarh. Abul Fazl was entrusted with the task of guarding Khandesh and keeping the communications open. He occupied the country and established 22 military posts throughout Khandesh.[1] It is reasonable to presume that some of these must have been in West Nimar.

Ultimately, after a long besiege, Akbar captured the fort in 45th Ilahi year (1600-1601 A.D.). The victory is recorded in a rock inscription on the right hand side of the ascent by the western gate of the fort.[2] After the conquest Akbar appointed his son Danial as viceroy of Khandesh and the western states of Malwa and Gujarat. The name of Khandesh was changed into Dandesh[3] after the prince. Danial died of excess intake of liquor in 1605.[4]

The Mughal Conquest of Malwa

After the victory of the Mughal forces over Baz Bahadur Akbar appointed Adham Khan as the governor of the province and Pir Muhammad as his assistant, who subsequently became his successor. Pir Muhammad Khan subdued the tract, and captured the fort of Bijagarh,[5] "The principal of all the fastnesses in their country," and took it by storm, slaughtering its whole garrison. Nimar was incorporated in *Subah* Malwa with its territories divided between the two *Sarkars* of Bijagarh and Mandu. The greater part of the District lay in the Bijagarh *Sarkar*, with its administrative head-quarters at Jalalabad town at the foot of the Bijagarh fort. It was a wild region at that time, and elephants roamed about in its forests.

During his 24th and 25th regnal years (1579-80 A.D.), Akbar apportioned his empire into 12 divisions or *Subahs*, named after the tract of that country or its capital city. Each *Subah*, roughly equivalent to a province, was placed under the viceroy.[6] *Subah* Malwa, comprising 12 *Sarkars*, subdivided into 301 *Parganas*,[7] was one of these 12 major divisions. With the conquest of Berar, Khandesh and Ahmadnagar, the number of *Subahs* increased to fifteen. As has already been stated, the territory of the Prant Nimar was incorporated within the *Subah* of Malwa and divided into the *Sarkars* of Bijagarh and Mandu. Some of the *Mahals* or *Parganas* which went to form these *Sarkars* are still recognizable. These were *Mahals* of Anjari, Sanawar (Sanawad), Laharpur or Muhammadpur, Banhbangaon (Bamhangaon), Balkwarah (Balakwar), Bhikangaon, Basniyah (Baswa), Biror (Barud), Tikri (Thikri), Chamari, Sidhnawa (Sendhwa), Kasraod (Kasrawad), Khargon, Kanapur, Khorgaon (Khudgaon). Morana (Mardana) Nawari (Newali), and Nagalwari (Nalgalwadi); in *Sarkar* Bijagarh;

1. A.L. Shrivastava, op. cit., pp. 444-45.
2. Cunningham, Archaeological Survey of India, Vol. IX, pp. 118-120.
3. Epigraphia Indo-Moslemica, 1925-26, p. 6.
4. R P. Tripathi, Rise and Fall of the Mughal Empire, p. 157.
5. Cambridge History of India, Vol. IV, p. 82.
6. Vincent Smith, Akbar the Great Mughal, p. 269.
7. Ain-i-Akbari, Vol. II, p. 197.

Choli Mahesar (Maheshwar) and Toki in *Sarkar* Mandu. In spite of the undeveloped condition, Bijagarh, which was mostly covered by dense forest and was an abodo of 'herds of wild elephants' paid a revenue of 1,22,49,121 *dams* and contributed 1,773 cavalry and 19,480 infantry. Some of its *Mahals* also paid good revenue to the Mughal treasury.

According to Abul Fazl Anjari contributed 17,07,093, Kasraod 11,50,569 and Khargon 7,53,194 *dams*, while from Choli Maheshwar, situated on the military route from north to south, 9,68,370 *dams* were realised.[1] Maheshwar was know as Choli Maheshwar from the town of Choli, 8 miles north-east of it.

After its incorporation in the Mughal Empire the District gradually rose into importance as well as prosperity. Constant movements of Mughal army from the north to the south and back across its soil, and the glittering Court of the viceroys of royal blood at the neighbouring city of Burhanpur must have supplied the necessary impetus for its all round development. It used to produce a rich harvest of melons, betel leaf and probably grapes. Also, fine horse and elephants, the two most essential animals of war, were procured from here. But in spite of all these developments neither the local chief nor the general mass were happy under the Mughals. The vassal rulers, deprived of their power of criminal jurisdiction, were reduced to the position of mere *Jagirdars* and *Zamindars*,[2] while the Hindu population groaned against the temple-breaking operations of Shah Jahan and the imposition of toll tax and *zizia* by his son Aurangzed.[3] There is evidence that the people of Malwa often resisted the Emperor's agents from enforcing his Islamic decrees.[4] Small scale revolts too were not rare, e.g. the uprising of the Gonds and Bhils during Shah Jahan's reign in 1643.

The conciliatory attitude of Akbar with the leading Rajput Chiefs could not suppress their inherent passion for independence or their racial bitterness towards the Muslim Emperors. Thus the Rajput rulers of Avasgarh (Barwani), who were treated by Akbar with honour and left with much of their original power could not give any proof of their loyalty. On the contrary Mohan Singh, a member of this royal line (and a brother of Jodh Singh the ruler), assisted the Maratha invaders and guided their military operation in Malwa in 1703 against the Mughals.[5] After the Marathas had dispersed he joined the Kolis and Bhils in their plundering raids around Bijagarh and Nandurwar. Subsequently, he snatched the throne of this tiny state from his nephew Parbat Singh.

During Shah Jahan's regime a complete reorganization of the revenue system was made in his southern territories. Simultaneously the *Fasli era* was introduced.[6]

1. Ibid., pp. 204-207.
2. Raghubir Sinh, Malwa in Transition, p. 72.
3. Cambridge History of India, Vol. IV, p. 217.
4. Ibid., p. 312.
5. Raghubir Sinh, op. cit., p. 79.
6. Report on the Land Revenue Settlement of British Nimar, 1868-69, p. 33.

The Marathas

The Maratha hordes appeared in the District in the closing years of the 17th century, mainly to collect *Chauth* and *Sardeshmukhi*, and committed wanton destruction. Struck with utter terror the village officers executed deeds, agreeing to pay the stipulated amount for years to come. The first Maratha intrusion took place in November 1699 under Krishna Sawant, who plundered the environs of Dhamoni.[1] In January 1703 a similar batch appeared in Khargone and ravaged the city.[2] Again in the same year Nima Sindhia crossed the Narmada, entered Malwa and, at the instigation of Chhatrasal Bundela, devastated the whole province. Nima Sindhia, however, was defeated near Sironj and expelled by Firuz Jung, the governor of Berar, who had hotly pursued him.

Another batch, guided by Mohan Singh of Avasgarh, reached Mandu. Under imperial order Bidar Bakht hastened to Mandu from Khargone to expel these plunderers who had already left at the news of their defeat at Sironj. Bidar subdued Mohan Singh, returned to Khargone and suppressed the rebellion of the Kolis and the Bhils. The devastation, caused by these raids was tremendous. Khandesh and the adjoining portions of Malwa were completely desolated.[3] This Maratha invasion totally disturbed the official communication and trade between north and south by blocking the road near the Narmada for a stretch of three months.[4] Taking advantage of these raids the unemployed Bundelas and the Afgans, too, started considerable disturbances. Bidar Bakht was appointed governor to restore peace and order. After his appointment no major Maratha invasion took place in Malwa except in Barwani, probably, in 1705.[5]

After an interval of about 10 years the plunderers again appeared on its soil under the leadership of Dewalji Somvanshi. There were several such raids between 1715 to 1719, which continued to disturb peace of West Nimar region from time to time. Moreover as a result of the agreement entered into by Hussain Ali, the Mughal viceroy of the Deccan, with the Marathas, (when official documents of grants of *chauth* and *sardeshmukhi* were granted to Peshwa Balaji Vishwanath in Delhi in 1719, on the basis of which the Marathas began to collect these dues from Khandesh), they began to exact by force similar dues from the neighbouring Nimar region too even though they had no legal or official authority to do so.

In the same year Chin Khilich Khan, first Nizam-ul-mulk was appointed governor of Malwa on the solemn promise of irrevocation. Hence, when the Saiyyads issued an order recalling him from Malwa, the Nizam revolted against their dominance and after making necessary preparations crossed the Narmada to invade Khandesh, the northern most portion of Hussain Ali's viceroyalty. Rustom Beg, the *faujdar* of Bijagarh or Khargone, correctly judged the situation

1. Raghubir Sinh, op. cit., p. 54.
2. Ibid., p. 57.
3. Ibid., p. 65.
4. Cambridge History of India, Vol. IV, p. 313.
5. Raghubir Sinh, op. cit., p. 66.

and sided with the Nizam and readily joined him. The Nizam duly confirmed Rustam Beg in his *faujdari* of Bijagarh, and thus through him secured full control over the Nimar region, which he retained there after even when he had ceased to be the governor of Malwa.[1]

After the fall of the Saiyyads, when the Nizam became the *Vazir*, in 1722, the Emperor appointed Raja Girdhar, a person of great courage and ability to the governorship of Malwa. He kept his country free from all plundering raids for a considerable period, but the exhorbitant rate of taxes which he imposed on the ruling Chiefs made him and his cousin Daya Bahadur extremely unpopular.

From the start Baji Rao I set his heart on the conquest of Malwa as a pre-requisite for ascendancy in northern India. In December 1723 the Peshwa invaded Malwa with a large force, accompanied by Udaji Pawar, Malhar Rao Holkar and Ranoji Sindhia.[2] He crossed the Narmada at Akbarpur ferry on 8 May 1724 and went to Raja Sabal Singh of Barwaha.

Again, in 1728, a formidable force of the Marathas, consisting of Malhar Rao Holkar, Udaji Pawar and Ranoji Sindhia, came to Malwa under the command of Chimnaji Appa. They inflicted a crushing defeat on the Imperial army in the battle of Amjhera in which both Girdhar Bahadur the governor of Malwa, and his cousin Daya Bahadur lost their lives.[3] The effect of this victory on the fortunes of Malwa was also very great.[4]

Till the time of Baji Rao Peshwa the Maratha inroads were periodic raids, but from then onwards turned into endeavour for permanent expansion. In these raids the Marathas were greatly helped by the local Hindu princes, including Jai Singh of Amber. During one such raid Kanthaji Kadam created havoc in Khargone and levied a black-mail of Rs. 50,000.[5] By 1730, after some invasions, the Maratha leaders practically came to control the whole of southern Malwa,[6] which duly included West Nimar as well.

In 1728 Malhar Rao received his first grant of twelve *mahals* in Malwa.[7] This was followed by his appointment to the supreme command in Malwa on 3 October, 1730. A year later, Ranoji Sindhia was associated with Holkar and both of them were authorised to make settlements with the Chiefs and Zamindars of the province.[8] When the Mughals launched an invasion on Malwa in January,

1. Cambridge History of India, Vol. IV, p. 343.
2. Raghubir Sinh, op. cit., p. 66.
3. C.A. Kincaid and D.B. Parasnis, A History of the Maratha People, Vol. II, p. 214; Raghubir Sinh, op. cit., pp. 161-62.
4. Raghubir Sinh, op. cit., p. 165.
5. H.N. Sinha, Rise of the Peshwas, p. 146; Raghubir Sinh, op. cit., p. 174.
6. Raghubir Sinh, op. cit., p. 127.
7. J. Malcolm, A Memoir of Central India, Vol. I, p. 146.
8. Selections from the Peshwa Daftar, Vol. X, No. 66.

1731 Malhar Rao was forced to evacuate his out-posts at Dhar, Depalpur and Maheshwar.[1] During the rainy season of 1732 Baji Rao effected a kind of working division of the districts of Malwa among Sindhia, Holkar and the three Pawar Chiefs of Dhar, and Senior and Junior Dewas.[2]

Tej Karan, son of Nandlal Mandloi, who acted as the secret agent to the Marathas during their encounter with Daya Bahadur, was rewarded with his appointment in the post to Mandloi.[3]

Badly beaten by the Marathas the Mughal Emperor again appointed Sawai Jai Singh to the governorship of Malwa in 1732. He was given huge sums to clear away the country of the raiders, but he made no more effort than to make futile and insincere attempts to buy them off.[4]

In 1736 Baji Rao was appointed deputy governor of Malwa on condition that he would not make any raid on Mughal territories. By this act the Peshwa was virtually made the *defacto* owner of the province.[5] In 1739 the Peshwa marched upto the vicinity of Delhi and the desperate Emperor summoned Nizam-ul-Mulk for help. The rivals met near Bhopal, in which the Nizam was badly defeated. He was compelled, in 1739, to submit to a humiliating treaty at Duraha Sarai, according to which the Nizam promised to grant to Baji Rao the whole of Malwa, with complete sovereign rights over the territory between the Narmada and the Chambal. He further promised to obtain the Emperor's confirmation for these cessions. After its sanction in 1741 by the Mughal Emperor himself, the Maratha supremacy became *dejure* as well as *defacto*[6]. Just as a devise for disguising the complete imperial surrender the post of *Naib-Subahadari* (deputy governorship) was mentioned in the *farman* for the Peshwa.[7] Earlier in 1740, by the Treaty of Mungey Petan the *Sarkars* of Handia and Bijagarh were made over to him by the Nizam.[8]

Thus, the year 1741 marks the beginning of a new epoch in the history of Malwa.[9] This brought to a close the Mughal-Maratha conflict and made the Marathas the sole masters of Malwa. In return for assistance rendered to Gazi-ud-din, the Nizam's eldest son, southern part of Nimar as well was transferred to the Peshwa in 1752; and by 1755 the whole of Nimar was in the hands of the Marathas.[10]

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1. Journal of Asiatic Society of Bengal, 1878, p. 300.
2. S.G. Sardesai, New History of the Marathas, Vol. II, pp. 142-43.
3. Raghubir Sinh, op. cit., p. 218.
4. Jadunath Sarkar, Fall of the Mughal Empire, Vol. I, p. 247.
5. Cambridge History of India, Vol. IV, p. 402.
6. R.C. Majumdar and others, An Advanced History of India, Pt. II, pp. 545-46; G.S. Sardesai, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 202.
7. Jadunath Sarkar, op. cit., Vol. I, p. 277.
8. Report on the Land Revenue Settlement of British Nimar, 1868-69, p. 37.
9. Raghubir Sinh, op. cit., p. 271.
10. Cambridge History of India, Vol. IV, p. 388.

The whole territory was then ill cultivated and devastated by the Bhils. Ram Chandra Bhuskute, who was appointed *Subahdar* of Nimar since 1751 by Peshwa Balaji Baji Rao, subdued the turbulent Bhils with drastic measures. The rebels were brought to Khargone and ordered to give security for good behaviour. Those who complied were presented with a special collar to wear and those who did not were beheaded at the *chabutra* in Khargone. The pillar to which the victims were tied up and the are, with which they were executed, were, (according to Indore State Gazetteer 1931), still extant and worshipped on the *Dussera* day as emblems of law and order. Ram Chandra Bhuskute did his best to restore peace and order, and cultivation in the ravaged territory.[1]

Bhuskute cleared the jungle, which had sprung up around Bijagarh, and induced cultivators to settle there. He was rewarded with *Sarmandloiship* of *sarkar* Bijagarh and Handia. The District (*sarkar* Bijagarh) then contained 32 *mahals*, of which two, Sendhwa and Nagalwadi, were given in *jagir* by the Peshwa to the Holkar, and the rest were held by the Peshwa himself and the Barwani and Dhar Chiefs. In 1764 a few more *mahals* were given to the Holkar. Four years later, in 1768, the Holkar *mahals* were confiscated for bad management but were restored to Ahilya Bai in 1769.[2]

Malhar Rao Holkar died in the year 1766. As his only son Khande Rao predeceased him, he was succeeded by his grandson Male Rao. But the latter did not long survive. On his death, in March 1767, his illustrious mother Ahilya Bai assumed the reigns of Government. She ruled the territories of the Holkar for the next 30 years with an exceptional ability and wisdom. Sir John Malcolm has paid glowing tribute to her benevolent rule.[3] Throughout the reign of Ahilya Bai Maheshwar was a place of the first importance, both politically and commercially, for it was selected by her as her civil capital. And although, Maheshwar continued as the capital of the State even after Ahilya Bai's death, its prosperity rapidly declined. Yashwant Rao Holkar I resided mostly at Rampura Bhanpura and later, after the Treaty of Mandsaur in 1818 Indore became the capital.

Till A.D. 1778 the Prant Nimar was under the nominal administration of the Peshwa. In that year, he bestowed in *jagir* the whole province to his trusted generals, the Holkar, the Sindhia and the Pawar. Only the rich tracts of Kasrawad, Kanapur and Beria were retained by him with a view to meeting the expenses on Baji Rao's *samadhi* (cenotaph) at Raver, as well as to retain control over certain fords on the Narmada. As a result of this peculiar method of sub-division the old *mahal* of Banwa (in Bijagarh *Sarkar*) was spilt up into three *mahals* of Beria, Sanawad and Selani, Sanawad went to the Holkar; but at a later stage when some complication arose from this arrangement a portion of Sanawad, called Tappa Billora was transferred from the Holkar's territory to the Sindhia's.[4]

1. Indore State Gazetteer, 1931, Vol. I, p. 493.
2. Ibid., pp. 493 and 515.
3. John Malcolm, op. cit., Vol. I, p. 194.
4. Nimar Settlement Report, p. 38.

After the death of Ahilya Bai in 1795 Tukoji Rao I assumed both civil and military charges and ruled for about two years. The whole province was brought into a state of violent turmoil by his four legitimate and illegitimate sons after his death in 1797.

Tukoji had chosen Kashi Rao as his successor even during the life time of Ahilya Bai. This was also confirmed by the Peshwa.[1] Kashirao's formal investiture with a *Khilat* of succession had already enraged Malhar Rao, who revolted in 1797 and sought aid from the Peshwa. The poor and imbecile Kashi Rao thrust himself under the protection of Daulat Rao Sindhia, the rival power of the Holkars. Malhar Rao was killed[2] on 14 September, 1797 and his half brothers, Yashwant Rao and Vithoji Rao, made their escape to Nagpur and Kolhapur, respectively.[3]

The assistance, thus rendered to Kashi Rao, enabled Daulat Rao to render the House of Holkar subservient to that of the Sindhia's.[4] In the meantime Peshwa Baji Rao II, in alliance with Daulat Rao, murdered Vithoji Holkar by tying him to the foot of an elephant on 15 April 1801. His dead body was then exhibited for full twenty four hours before cremation.[5] For this act of cruelty, Yashwant Rao never forgave the Peshwa. That also antagonised further the relation between the Houses of Holkar and Sindhia.

Yashwant Rao managed to escape from the prison of Raghoji Bhonsle of Nagpur, made his abode in the wild valleys of the Narmada and the Tapti, and claimed the Holkar throne in the name of Khande Rao, son of his brother Malhar Rao. Kashi Rao marched against him and threatened Anandrao Pawar of Dhar of dire consequences for his asylum given to the fugitive prince.[6] The latter left Dhar but soon gathered around himself a formidable army of the Bhils and Pindaris. With this force he raided Sindhia's territory in Malwa and also declared an open war against Kashi Rao, a puppet in the hands of the former. Yaswant Rao won a victory at Kasrawad and occupied Maheshwar, where he took possession of the large treasure of Ahilya Bai.[7] Afterwards seven more battles were fought between these two Maratha Chiefs.

By 1802, the Maratha *jagirdars* lost all cohesion. Every one realised the supreme utility of uniting for a common cause but at the same time adopted all fair or foul measures to protect self-interest at other's expense. Thus, when during the Second Anglo-Maratha war the Sindhia and the Bhonsla recognized Yashwant Rao to all the possessions of Holkar and invited him to join their anti-

1. Poona Residency Correspondence, Vol. II, Letter No. 258.
2. G. S. Sardesai. op. cit., Vol. III, p. 330.
3. J. Talboys Wheeler, Summary of the Affairs of Mahratta States, p. 90; Somerset Playne, Indian States, p. 84.
4. G. Duff, A History of the Mahrattas, Vol. III, p. 148.
5. Cambridge History of India, Vol. V, p. 372; G.S. Sardesai, op. cit., Vol. III, pp. 366-67.
6. G.S. Sardesai, op. cit., Vol. III, p 364.
7. Ibid., p. 365.

British confederacy, he remained scrupulously aloof.[1] But when in 1804, after smashing the power of the Sindhia and the Raja of Nagpur, the Britishers tried to negotiate an ignoble treaty with him and offered an impossible and unacceptable term he wrote to them piteously to extend their helping hand.

This is not to say that the Holkar was not a formidable opponent to the British imperialists. This is evedent from Wellesley's letter which he wrote in February 1804. He writes, "In the event of war........countries of many *koss* would be overrun and plundered and burnt, and calamities would fall on hundreds of human begins in a continued war by the attacks of his army which overwhelms like the waves of the sea."[2]

Finally, a war broke out in which the Holkar was defeated by General Lake and Wellesley. Driven at length to distress, Yashwant Rao sued for peace.[3]

A treaty was concluded at Rajpur Ghat on 24 December, 1805.[4] In 1808 Kashi Rao, elder brother of Yashwant Rao, was killed near Bijagarh, when he tried to escape from his prison at the Sendhwa fort.[5] Yashwant Rao indulged in strong drinks to brace his spirits, with the result, in October, 1808 he grew insane and died in 1811.

During his insanity his unscrupulous and lowly mistress Tulsi Bai ran the administration in the name of a Council of Regency. She had for assistance Amir Khan, Gafur Khan and Zalim Singh of Kotah.[6] The arrangement continued even after Yashwant's death; though as an eyewash she adopted Malhar Rao, an illegitimate child of the late ruler by another concubine. Keshari Bai. The military Commander, bent upon hostilities with the British, was about to move to the court of the Peshwa to join him against their common enemy. He was, however, interrupted by Sir John Malcolm and offered a treaty, which was not to his liking. A battle was fought at Mahidpur where the state force was defeated.[7] Earlier, on 20 December, 1817 Tulsi Bai was beheaded by the extremists in the Holkar Party on suspicion of pacific attitude towards the British. Malhar Rao was thus removed from the care of Tulsi Bai and compelled to sign the Treaty of Mandsaur of 1818.

At this juncture the State capital was shifted from Maheshwar to Indore and Kasrawad, Kanapur and Beria were annexed to the British territory[8]. Malhar Rao

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1. The Despatches of Marquis of Wellesley, Vol. IV, p. 107; G.S. Sardesai, Main Currents of Maratha History, p. 204.
2. Mill and Wilson, The History of British India, Vol. VI, p. 396.
3. Selections from the Nagpur Residency Records, Vol. I, p. 450.
4. C.U. Aitchison, A Collection of Treaties, Engagements and Sanads, Vol. IV, p. 26.
5. G. Duff, op cit., Vol. III, p. 319; The Cambridge History of India, Vol. V, p. 376; Indore State Gazetteer, 1931, Vol. I, p. 34.
6. G. Duff, op. cit., Vol. III, p. 321; M.S. Mehta, Lord Hastings and Indian States, pp. 8 and 11.
7. For details of the battle *see* The Life and Correspondence of Sir John Malcolm, Vol. II, pp. 204-24.
8. Report on the Province of Nimar, p. 16.

II was retained on the throne with a shadow of his former sovereign power and Tantia Jog was appointed as his minister. Martand Rao succeeded his father Malhar Rao II in 1833, but due to unpopularity among his subjects Hari Rao was offered the nominal power, still left with the royal house. After him came Khande Rao, who died in 1844 and was succeeded by Tukoji Rao II.

Upto that time Nimar suffered probably the worst days of its existence. The incessent wars between the Holkar and the Sindhia from 1800 to 1818 had already wrought havoc in this region. Added to that were the repurcussions of Tulsi Bai's mal-administration. There was no regular collection of revenue, no reducing of army and no adequate finance for smooth and peaceful administration. Bodies of troops were sent to the neighbouring states to collect and extort subsistence.[1] A complete state of anarchy prevailed for some time in the State........ "at the court, bribery, execution, and murders; in the provinces, vicolence, rapine and bloodshed."[2] The Pindari bands under Chitoo and the plundering followers of Sindhia, Holkar and Bhilala Chiefs revaged the territory without intermission for nearly 20 years. At last a severe famine visited the area and the people, all hope lost, gave up cultivation.

The country gradually grew waste and turned into a vast expanse of wilderness. Colonel Smith saw in 1818 one continuous scene of desolation and ruin in Kanapur and Beria. Extensive tracts were observed overgrown with jungle.[3] The period is still remembered as the "*Gardi ka waqt*", (time of trouble.)

In 1823, by the Treaty of Gwalior most of Nimar, which at that time belonged to the Sindhia, passed under the complete domination of the East India Company. From 1823 to 1854 Nimar was under the superior control of the Resident at Indore and after 1854, the Agent to the Governor General in Central India. The direct management of the District was, however, entrusted to an officer whose head-quarters was at Mandleshwar. During 1864-1868 it formed part of the Central Provinces, and the headquarters was shifted to Khandwa. Actually, after the Battle of Maharajpur in 1844 till its incorporation in the Central Provinces, Nimar used to be held by the British as security for the payment of the Gwalior contingent.[4]

During the first 20 years of British management, when the task of administration devolved on a succession of military officers the history of the District, with its head-quarters at Mandleshwar, was a record of utter mismanagement. The fact was observed by the Hon'ble Court of East India Directors and criticised bitterly.[5] One of the disturbing elements was Sheikh Dulla, the Pindari leader. He created considerable trouble between 1819-1829 and had to be suppressed by

1. G. Duff, op. cit., Vol. III, p. 322.
2. Ibid., p. 323.
3. Report on the Province of Nimar. 1858, p. 16.
4. Ibid., p. 46.
5. Ibid., p. 47.

troops. Captain P. T. French, who assumed charge of the Nimar Agency in 1845, admitted that the District was monstrously overtaxed and neglected in all respects.

He writes, "those we found poor have remained so, and many of those that were otherwise have become poor; no one here seems to have prospered under our rule. Nimar had conferred on her few, if any, of the measures of amelioration introduced elsewhere, while she felt the inevitable evils of a foreign rule......year after year passed away, Nimar having the dread of evil without the prospects of good before her. In a word, we reaped without sowing and in exacting the rights of property, we forgot its duties".[1]

The Bhils of Asir hills, too, started their depredations till they were absorbed in the Local Bhil Corps and kept engaged. In the succeeding 20 years numerous public utility and welfare works were undertaken to atone for the maladministration of the preceding years. Credit for this overall development goes to Captain French.

The Great Revolt of 1857

When the Great Revolt of 1857 broke out in the country, the people of West Nimar did not remain un-affected and disinterested. On the evidence of a ballad from Barwani it is known, that one Khajia Naik of Sangir, (a village on the Agra-Bombay Road in the Shirpur *Taluq* of Khandesh) made an attempt to rise against the British by cutting telegraph wires, by looting their treasury on the high road and by plundering a few places of Nimar. Captain Keatings, the officer in charge of the District, observed the first sign of commotion when cakes from Indore side were being passed on from village to village. He marched from Mandleshwar with a small force towards Burhanpur in a bid to prevent passage of rebels from the direction of Hyderabad to the north. In the beginning of July frightened European residents at Mandleshwar were sent to the fort of Punasa.

In October 1858, Tatya Tope, one of the foremost leaders of the Great Revolt, crossed the Narmada and attempted to reach the Deccan via the Tapti Valley. On reaching Khandwa, Tatya Tope found that the British troops were waiting in all directions to pounce upon him. He, therefore, retraced his steps and escaped to Central India by way of Khargone.[2] Khajia Naik joined Tatya Tope with his followers of 4,000, including Bhil Chiefs Bhima and Mawasin. They were attacked and defeated by Major Sutherland at Rajpur. A second fight was fought at Dhaba Baodi (a village in Barwani) after which Bhima was caught and transported. Khajia Naik was captured with the help of some Makrani detectives and decapitated.[3]

1. Ibid., 1856, pp. 60-62.
2. S.N. Sen, Eighteen Fifty Seven, pp. 372 and 400; History of Freedom Movement in M.P., p. 88; Nimar Settlement Report, 1870, p. 53.
3. Indian Antiquary, 1916, pp. 47-48.

When Tatya was wandering in this region the Holkar sent Bakshi *Khuman Singh with a body of Indore troops to co-operate with Captain Keatings, in the suppression of the rising of the Bhils in Nimar under the leadership of Sitaram.* In November of the same year, Bhimgir Dua, the newly appointed Commandant of the Indore Infantry, was directed to co-operate with the British troops under Captain Helbert in a campaign against Rao Sahib and Tatya Tope in west Nimar.[1]

Transfer of Nimar to the Holkar

In 1868, Nimar, till then held by the British, was made over to the Holkar in exchange for certain lands held by him in the Deccan and elsewhere, and had since remained in his possession till the formation of the Madhya Bharat in 1948. Western Nimar, thus transferred to Holkar, was divided into two separate districts with headquarters at Mandleshwar and Khargone. This continued to be the case till 1904, when the administrative set-up was duly reorganised and the two separate districts, with their headquarters at Mandleshwar and Khargone were amalgamated into one. At the same time the total number of *parganas* was reduced from 16 to 11. The *Naib-Subah* was placed over the *parganas* north of the Narmada, while those on the south were under the control of the *Subah*,[2] who also exercised a general over-all control over the whole of the combined District. In 1908 as a result of further reorganization the number of *parganas* in the District was further reduced from 11 to 8 only.

Tukoji Rao III abdicated in favour of his minor son Yashwant Rao in 1926, who assumed full charge in 1930. He was still in power when, in 1948, the whole Holkar State was merged into the Union of India and formed a constituent part of Madhya Bharat. Yashwant Rao became the Up-Raj Pramukh. The present District of West Nimar, (Khargone) came into being at the time of this accession by amalgamating slices from various princely states.

Barwani State

At this juncture a few words about one of these convenating states, *viz.*, Barwani may not be out of focus. This small state, with its barren soil and hilly surface escaped the coveted eyes of the Muslim Emperors, Maratha rulers and British agents. Its history, from the 13th century, down to its accession to the Indian Union is uneventful. The obscure origin of the ruling house of the Rana, who ruled over this tract for all these centuries, has already been mentioned. All historical information, gathered so far, would not give anything beyond the names of its rulers. During their long period of existence there is no mention of any significant conquest or otherwise.

Often they were engaged in petty disputes over succession and at times in regicides. One of the rulers named Mal Singh, the 29th Chief, had three sons

1. V.K. Kunte, Biographical Sketch of Rao Ramchandra Rao Bhau Sahib Reshimwala, pp. 64-65; M.W. Burway, Life of H.H. Maharaja Tukoji Rao Holkar II, p. 189.
2. Indore State Gazetteer, 1931, p. 496.

Vikram, Bhim and Arjun Singh. Kanak Singh, son of Vikram Singh extended his dominion by conquering *Alirajpur and Ratanmal. He settled at Ratanmal, Avasgarh finally passing to Arjun Singh. Parsan Sing's conversion to Islam has been stated earlier. In 1617 Limji became the ruler. Under his patronage Govind Pandit wrote an historical account of these Ranas, viz., The Kablpa Grantha.* Unfortunately, the manuscript has been lost. Next came Chandra Singh, who shifted his capital at Barwani, then known as "Siddha Nagar". During the first decade of the 18th century Mohan Singh deprived his step-brother Jodh Singh of the *gaddi*. He guided the Maratha hordes during their raid on Mandu, but had himself to surrender much of his territories to the Holkar. The fort of Ramgarh was rebuilt by him.

Anup Singh succeeded Mohan Singh in 1730. By this time the Marathas had secured considerable hold over this region. There is clear proof that when after the death of Anup Singh a dispute for succession arose between his sons Umaid Singh and Pahar Singh, the Peshwa, in the capacity of an overlord settled the matter in favour of Umaid Singh. Probably, the succession was decided after the princes were screened at Poona in 1772 A.D.[1]

History was repeated after Umaid Singh's death in 1794, Four claimants appeared for the *gaddi* and disturbance followed. One of them was Ajab Singh, who had solid support of the Bhils under their leader Govardhan. People, fearing that he might succeed and the Bhils might get an upper hand, started fleeing from the State. Ahilya Bai sent her diplomatic representative to restore order. Mohan Singh II succeeded his father. He was ruling while the Settlement of Malwa was conducted by Sir John Malcolm. In 1857 Tatya Tope and his brother plundered several villages of this State and retired after a few skirmishes with the British army.

Due to the incapacity of Rana Yashwaut Singh the State was taken over by the British in 1861. It was restored in 1873 on condition that his continuance in power would depend on his ability to administer successfully. In 1868, on the evidence of the Settlement survey of Sir Malcolm, the Indore ruler asserted his claim on village Datwara, in the centre of Barwani. The Barwani administrator paid Rs. 50,000 to the Holkar treasury in 1908 as a price for that village and thus avoided future disputes.[2]

Rana Ranjit Singh was a minor when his father Indrajit Singh, son of Yashwant Sing, died in 1894. From that time, till his investiture with ruling powers in 1910 the State was administered by a Superintendent under the direction of the Political Agent. During the First World War the Prince served in the forward line of France. In recognition, he was granted a *Sanad*, conferring on him certain personal powers. In 1921 again, another *Kharita* was received by him whereby certain enhanced criminal powers were granted to him with

1. Barwani State Gazetteer, 1908, p. 8.
2. C.U. Aitchison, op. cit., Vol. IV, 1933, pp. 158-59.

hereditary perpetuity. Ranjit Singh was succeeded by his minor son Devi Singh in 1930 during whose minority a State Council, headed by Dewan Harilal Goshaliya managed the administration of the State. Hiralal was an able officer, he caused many beautiful buildings to be erected in Barwani. Raja Devi Singh was invested with administrative power in 1943, and in 1948, while he was still ruling, his State was merged in Madhya Bharat and formed part of this District. The ruler of Barwani was granted a permanent salute of 9 guns in 1867 which was raised to 11 guns in 1921.

Though the people of this District contributed little towards the nation-wise struggle for freedom, political awakening was noticeable in the early years of this century in its urban areas.[1] Congress workers like Shri Vishwanath Khode of Khargone, Baijnath Mahodaya and Kashinath Trivedi of Barwani inspired the people with patriotism and national ideas. It is due to their zeal and endeavour that the boycott movement was tolerably successful in the District. In constructive field too they took a great deal of initiative. A Gram Seva Kutir was established at Sendhwa and a Gram Seva Sadan at Thigaon. Village uplift work, Khadi propaganda and agricultural welfare work were the main duty of these units.

During 1920-21 a branch each of the Indian National Congress and the Indore Rajya Praja Parishad[2] were established in the State, members of which carried on extensive propaganda for responsible government and for total prohibition.[3] Then even the bidders hesitated to come forward for excise contracts and this condition forced the State Government to introduce commission system. The success of the intense campaign for the prohibition resulted in an abnormal fall in the excise revenue of the State.[4]

In 1925 the Holkar granted a Legislative Council mostly of nominated members.

About a decade afterwards demonstrations were made at Khargone, Maheshwar, Barwaha and Sanawad against Government of India's repressive policy during Mahatma Gandhi's Dandi March.[5]

The Madhya Bharat Deshi Rajya Lok Parishad gave an impetus to the nationalist workers of the Holkar State to organize the Indore Rajya Praja Mandal[6] and for pressing the State Government for restoration of the civil liberties and the democratic rights of the public. The Praja Mandal established

1. Holkar State Administration Report, 1909, pp. 2-3.
2. *Aaj ka Madhya Bharat*, Dec., 1951, p. 6; In Holkar State Police Administration Report, 1936, p. 2 the name is given as Indore Rajya Praja Mandal.
3. Holkar State Police Administration Report, 1922, pp. 17-18.
4. Holkar State Administration Report, 1921, p. 21.
5. Holkar State Police Administration Report, 1931, p. 2.
6. Ibid., 1930, p. 2.

its branches all over the State and a campaign was started in right earnest. Thus, in 1938, branches of the Praja Mandal were established in Khargone, Bhikangaon, and Sanawad; and propaganda against British imperialism was carried on vigorously. In the manifesto of the Mandal the State Government found a clear reference to the principles of socialism.[1]

The pressure of agitation launched by the Praja Mandal yielded immediate results when the State Government, by the end of 1938 removed all restrictions on public meetings,[2] except on political speeches by outsiders. This helped the Praja Mandal to carry on its political activities and agitation more extensively and with great vigour. In the following year Praja Mandal became the most powerful political organization representing the people of the Holkar State.

The Mandal revived its membership campaign and extended its activities to all the principal towns. Anti-war and anti-empire propaganda carried on by the Mandal were sought to have been combated by promulgating the Defence of Indore Act of 1939. When the Mahidpur Session of the Praja Mandal was banned, one of its annual sessions was held at Khargone in 1941. The place was counted as a very major stronghold of the Mandal. Agitation carried on by this body was followed by repressive measures by the Government.

The Political situation, obtaining in 1942, was unprecedented in gravity and complexity. The Mandal sent an ultimatum to the Maharaja of Indore to sever his connection with the Crown and to establish a full responsible government, without delay. When the State Government gave a cold shoulder to the ultimatum, the conflict became inevitable The Praja Mandal was declared unlawful. There-upon the workers organized processions and demonstrations and courted arrest. By 1943, all the political prisoners were released unconditionally but the ban on the Mandal continued.

In the General Election of 1944 to the Indore Legislative Council, the Praja Mandal sent 30 candidates and captured 28 seats out of the total number of 37 elected ones. The ban on the Mandal was lifted and it became affiliated to the All India States' Peoples' Conference in 1945. In 1946 an ultimatum of one year's duration was served demanding the establishment of a fully responsible government. When the demand was turned down, the Mandal started a non-violent *Satyagraha* which the Government tried to crush down. About a hundred workers participated in the movement.

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1. Ibid., 1938, p. 1.
2. Ibid.
3. Holkar State Administration Report, 1940, p. 36.

In Barwani the State Praja Mandal was established in 1947-48. With the attainment of Independence by India an accelerated upsurge of political consciousness manifested itself in this District. Ultimately the ruler of Indore had to accept the public demand for responsible government in 1948. Meanwhile, the formation of Madhya Bharat took place. Afterwards the Praja Mandal was merged in the Madhya Bharat Congress Committee.

On 1st November, 1956 the District was incorporated in Madhya Pradesh as one of its constituent districts.

CHAPTER III

PEOPLE

Population

West Nimar according to 1961 Census has a population of 9,90,464 on a land area of 3751.4 sq. miles (9716.1 sq. kms). It is the most populous of the districts of Indore Division, and has much above the average population of a district in the State, *viz.*, 7.53 lakhs. During the last decade (1951-61) the District population increased by 30.5 per cent. Divided in eight tahsils, Sendhwa in the south was the most populated while Maheshwar in the north was least populated. West Nimar with 264 persons per sq. mile stood third in descending order of density in the districts of Indore Division.

Tahsil-wise break-up of population is shown in the following Table.—

Tahsil	Population		
	Persons	Males	Females
Barwaha	111,112	57,389	53,723
Maheshwar	73,310	37,803	35,507
Barwani	105,368	53.804	51,564
Rajpur	142,013	72,004	70,009
Kasrawad	82,367	42,127	40,040
Sendhwa	159,010	80,708	78,302
Khargone	208,331	105,903	102,428
Bhikangaon	108,953	55,981	52,972
Distt. Total	990,464	505,919	484,545

Rural area comprising 2,040 villages (325 uninhabited), extending over an area of 3,739.9 sq. miles (9686.3 sq. kms.) contained 86.06 per cent of the District population, leaving the rest 13.94 per cent in 13 towns extending over an area of about 11.5 sq. miles. The rural-urban ratio in 1961 was 1 : 0.16 which clearly shows the predominance of rural population in the District.

Proportion of Sexes

The Table below shows the growth and changes in sex-ratio during the 60 years since 1901.—

Census Years	Population			Sex-ratio (No. of females per 1000 males)		
	Persons	*Males*	*Females*	*Total*	*Rural*	*Urban*
1901	333,248	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	980
1911	454,993	231,676	223,317	964	962	990
1921	500,829	255,811	245,018	958	958	953
1931	592,023	303,008	289,015	954	956	933
1941	681,083	346,121	334,962	968	971	940
1951	758,694	384,933	373,761	971	973	958
1961	990,464	505,919	484,545	958	965	911

During the period of six census decades, since 1901, both the general sex-ratio and rural sex-ratio steadily dropped till 1931. The influenza and scarcity ridden decade of 1911-21 was largely responsible for it. For the following two decades, i.e., till 1951, slight improvement was registered. In 1961 the earlier trend reasserted itself, and registered 958 and 965 females per 1000 males, respectively.

Apart from epidemics, etc., the racial influences, the climate and physical conditions and social customs go a long way to influence the sex-ratio. The castes also provide an interesting revelation when in 1931 Census it was recorded that higher castes have a lower sex-ratio. According to 1951 Census, the highest sex-ratio was recorded among the Muslim subjects, i.e., 918, while among the Bhilalas of the District it was still higher, i.e., 1017 females per 1000 males. Among the Sikhs and Hindus, it was as low as 817 and 971 per 1000 males, respectively.

During 40 years since 1921, it may be seen that in rural areas the sex-ratio was always higher than in urban area. In 1921 there were 958 females per 1000 males in rural areas as against 953 in urban area. In 1961 the sex-ratio was recorded to be 965 in rural, against 911 in urban area. The lower sex-ratio in urban area may be attributable to movement of men to town for work, their families following them after considerable time.

Growth of Population

The present District of Nimar (West) took shape after the formation of erstwhile State of Madhya Bharat in 1948, when the Princely States of the area including Indore were merged. The District boundaries were reconstituted by merging the Barwani State into Holkar's Nimar and certain other adjoining tracts,

The earliest enumeration of the District population though incomplete, dates back to 1820 when John Malcolm enumerated a population of 32,315.[1] No reliable estimate of population seems to have been made at any time between 1820 and the first decennial census in 1881. Although the first regular census of British India was taken for the first time in 1872, it was not extended to the States during that year. The 1881 population figures are also not available owing to the fact that district figures were not tabulated. The regular rounds of decennial operations since 1891, enumerated the population of the tract as 2,99,160, giving a density of 80 persons, and in 1901-2,57,110, giving a density of 66 persons per squar mile.[2] The decline in the population amounting to 42,050 or 14.05 per cent in this decade was not so severe in the context of a more severer impact of famine of 1898-1900 in the adjoining areas. The decade of 1891-1901, as remarked in 1931 Census, was the 'darkest period in our census history'.

The population of the District, adjusted according to the present boundaries, stood at 3,33,248 persons in 1901. The growth of the District population between 1901 and 1961 is given in the following Table.--

District/Tahsil	Census Years						
	1901	1911	1921	1931	1941	1951	1961
Barwaha	62,260	68,815	70,907	77,222	82,447	86,534	111,112
Maheshwar	44,687	46,045	43,338	51,983	51,343	60,007	73,310
Barwani	30,647	42,312	49,551	56,929	72,334	82,833	105,368
Rajpur	49,713	67,696	76,087	88,497	102,715	116,365	142,013
Kasrawad	36,917	43,871	47,654	53,593	60,675	64,281	82,367
Sendhwa	26,370	58,031	71,153	89,576	112,798	127,144	159,010
Khargone	55,734	76,953	90,201	111,591	128,742	152,760	208,331
Bhikangaon	26,920	51,270	51,938	62,632	64,029	68.770	108,953
West Nimar District	333,248	454,993	500,829	592,023	681,083	758,694	990,464

Note.—(Since there was no change in the boundaries of the District between 1951-61, the 1961 Census figures have been juxtaposed).

During the 60 years since 1901, Maheshwar Tahsil increased by far the most, *viz.*, by 60.96 per cent and Sendhwa the least, i.e., only by 16.58 per cent. The increase was also noticeable in Barwaha (56.03 per cent), Khargone (51.44 per cent) Kasrawad (44.82 per cent) and Rajpur (35.00 per cent). However, Barwani and Bhikangaon also increased by 29.08 per cent and 24.71 per cent, respectively.

The absolute and percentage increase in the District population, since 1901 is given as under.—

Census Years	Population	Absolute increase in intervals of					
		10 yrs.	20 yrs.	30 yrs.	40 yrs.	50 yrs.	60 yrs.
1901	3,33,248						
1911	4,54,993	121,745 (36.53)	167,581 (50.29)	258,775 (77.65)	347,835 (104.38)	425,446 (127.67)	657,216 (197.22)

1. Indore State Gazetteer, 1908, Vol. II, p. 217.
2. Ibid.

1921	5,00,829	45,836 (10.07)	137,030 (30.12)	226,090 (49.69)	303,701 (66.75)	535,471 (117.69)
1931	5,92,023	91,194 (18.21)	180,254 (35.99)	257,865 (51.49)	489,635 (97.76)	
1941	6,81,083	89,060 (15.04)	66,671 (11.26)	389,441 (67.30)		
1951	7,58,694	77,611 (11.40)	309,381 (45.42)			
1961	9,90,464	231,770 (30.55)				

(Note:—Figures in bracket are percentages)

The decade following the great famine witnessed the bubonic plague, more severe in the urban areas. The failure of rains in the tract in 1907 caused famine conditions. Despite conditions unfavourable to the growth of population the general population increased by 1,21,745 or 36.53 per cent in 1911. Owing to the severity of plague in urban centres, the population in Sanawad, Anjad and Mandleshwar towns declined. Sendhwa and Bhikangaon Tahsils increased by far the most, i.e., 120 per cent and 90.5 per cent, respectively.

The proportion of immigrants per mille of actual population in the District of West Nimar was enumerated to be 260, of whom 222 came from contiguous districts and 38 from other places. However, only 57 per mille of actual population emigrated, mostly to the contiguous districts.

The Census of 1921 recorded an increase of about 45,836 or 10.07 per cent over 1911. In 1921 the population of the District was 5,00,829 (2,55,811 males 2,45,018 females). The decade 1911-21 witnessed a number of bad seasons coupled with devastation caused by the plague, cholera, and crowning them all, the influenza epidemic of 1918-19. Inspite of all this, during the 20 years sinsce 1901 an increase of 1,67,581 or 50.29 per cent was recorded.

Excepting Bhikangaon Tahsil which remained almost stationry during the decade all others registered an increase in population. It is more attributable to high fecundity of tribal population (Bhill, etc.), and large favourable balance of migration. The total immigrants enumerated in 1921 were about 93 thousand of whom the largest (73,000), came from the contiguous parts of other provinces, etc. The emigrants to places within the State were only about seven thousand. As emigration figures to other parts of the country are not available, it is not possible to form a precise idea about the net migration. The Inter-District migration shows that Indore and West Nimar District are really contiguous in nature, for, the reciprocal migration is almost equal. The following figures may be seen in this respect:—

District	Immigrants from				
	Indore Distt.	Mahidpur	Nemawar	Rampura Banpura	Alampur
West Nimar					
Receives from	7,802	248	515	609	2
Gives to	6,426	60	152	344	15

The next decade of 1921-31 was characterised by conditions favourable to normal, natural growth of population, even though the widespread epidemic of influenza of 1918-19 had sapped up the vitality of the masses. On the economic front, the out-look at the end of the decade was not a happy one owing to general downward trend in prices and wages, culminating in the depression of thirties. The increase in the population in the District, however, remained unaffected by it. The Census of 1931 was taken just before the setting of the economic depression. It always takes sometime before changes in economic conditions make themselves appreciably felt in different spheres.

The population of the District in 1931 further increased by 91,194 or 18.21 per cent over that of 1921. Since 1901 the increase during the 30 years amounted to 77.65 per cent. Large increase was registered in the population of Khargone Tahsil, i.e., 23.7 per cent, while Sendhwa increased by 25.9 per cent during the decade. The former increased owing to the large expansion in urban population, while the latter, owing to high fecundity of tribal population, mostly Bhils and Bhilalas.

The favourable balance of migration played its own part in the general growth of District population. The number of foreign born population increased from about 93 thousand in 1921, to more than a lakh in 1931, the largest number of immigrants (65,501) coming from contiguous tracts outside the State and 25,740 from non-contiguous tracts of India outside the former Holkar State. From among the former areas, the females numbered about 1,203 per 1,000 male immigrants which suggest the existence of marital links with these areas. The emigration to contiguous tracts of the former State numbered 1C86, while to non-contiguous tracts of the State, numbered 3,613.

The population of the District in the following decade rose from 5,92,023 to 6,81,083, registering an increase of about 15.04 per cent. The increase in 40 years, since 1901, worked out to be 104.38 per cent. This increase was more or less uniform in all the tahsils of the District, save Sendhwa, which again out-paced others for reasons stated earlier, i.e., high fecundity of primitive population.

This brings us on the thresh-hold of the most eventful decade so far, both politically and economically. It has its own effect on the growth and movement of population in the country, though Khargone was not very much affected by it. It began in midst of War spanning for five years, witnessed the termination of British domination, consequent partition leading to wide-spread dispalcement of refugee population, the abolition of Pincely States, and formation of the erstwhile State of Madhya Bharat, a part 'B' State in 1948.

The trend established in the past decades continued to push up the population of the District from 6,81,083 to 7,58,694 in 1951. The increase was slightly less during this decade (1941-51), and the population increased by 77,611 or 11.40 per

cent. The period of 50 years, since 1901 brought about a continuous growth in the District population, resulting in an increase of 127.67 per cent over the period. The increase is noted to be so in all the tahsils of the District Khargone representing a large increase owing to its urban population, followed by Sendhwa which had all along been noted for its large increase to the population.

In 1951, the immigrant population constituted more than five per cent of the District population. The total Immigrants enumerated in 1951 were 40,783. Of these 11,376 were born in other Districts of the erstwhile State of Madhya Bharat ; 27,513 in the States adjacent to Madhya Bharat ; 933 in other parts of India ; 947 in Countries in Asia beyond India (including U.S.S.R.); 3 in Europe and 11 in Countries in America.

The number of immigrants from some important places are given below according to 1951 census .—

Place	Immigrants			Rural	Urban
	Persons	Males	Females		
Dewas	665	337	328	435	230
Dhar	4,974	1,810	3,164	3,178	1,796
Indore	3,069	1,304	1,765	1,345	1,724
Jhabua	772	553	219	587	185
Ujjain	444	180	264	214	230
Bombay	9,635	3,652	5,983	5,570	3,065
Madhya Pradesh	11,247	4,531	6,716	8,799	2,448
Rajasthan	4,198	2,418	1,780	2,023	2,175
Uttar Pradesh	1,803	884	919	1,027	776
Pakistan	934	554	380	203	731

It is interesting to note that most of the immigration from Dhar, Dewas, Jhabua, Bombay, former Madhya Pradesh (Mahakoshal) and Uttar Pradesh took place in the rural areas, while from Indore and Pakistan it was mostly in the urban areas. The displaced persons who arrived in the last five years of the decade numbered 804 only.

The non-Indian nationals in the District numbered only 20 consisting of 7 males and 13 females. Of these six were American, one German and 13 Canadian females. All of them lived in the urban tract of the District.

Standing fourth in respect of rate of population increase in the State, West Nimar experienced high rate of increase, i.e., 30.5 per cent during 1951-61. The other three districts above it were Sehore, Jhabua and East Nimar. Apart from general factors conducive to the growth of population in the State, the special factor operating in this area was, the extra-ordinary high fecundity of tribes, *viz.*, Bhil's, Korku, etc., which had been referred to in earlier Censuses also. On the other hand, effective control of malaria which is known to take away heavy toll

of life in the past "has arrested the high death-rate, so that, the naturally high prolificity of the tribes manifested itself in the very high rates of increase."[1]

Among the tahsils, Bhikangaon (58.4 per cent) and Khargone (36.4 per cent) experienced high increase in population owing to their large aboriginal population on the one hand, and on the other hand on account of control of malaria. The two tahsils are located on the Satpura Hills and their slopes, which earlier had a high incidence of malaria. Exceptionally high increase in Bhikangaon Tahsil is also owing to immigration of landless tribals from Barwani and Rajpur Tahsils.[2] As regards other tahsils, those lying on the slopes of hills, and which are, consequently more effected by malaria showed higher growths, viz., Barwani (27.2 per cent), Barwah (28.4 per cent), Kasrawad (28.1 per cent) and Sendhwa 25.1 per cent than those lying on the plains, *viz.*, Maheshwar (22.2 per cent) and Rajpur (22.0 per cent) Tahsils.

Density of Population

The population of 9.90 lakh persons in 1961 against an area of 3,751.4 sq. miles (9716.1 sq. km.) gives an average density of 264 persons to a square mile, much above the State density of 192.

Tahsil-wise density in 1961 is given in the following Table .—

Tahsil	Areas in sq. miles (1961)	Density (per square mile)		
		Total	Rural	Urban
Barwaha	467.4	238	192	5,936
Maheshwar	310.4	236	193	11,308
Barwani	269.7	391	327	25.656
Rajpur	505.7	281	243	61,242
Kasrawad	388.1	212	197	49,392
Sendhwa	515.0	309	270	27,514
Khargone	680.4	306	256	8,827
Bhikangaon	614 7	177	170	6,304
District Total	3,751.4	264	228	12,007

It is evident that in terms of area, Barwani is the smallest Tahsil with largest density, while Bhikangaon, the second largest has the lowest density. As for the household density (No. of households per square mile). West Nimar with 47 households per sq. mile presented a picture of sparse living which is a more prominent feature in the rural areas where only 40 households per sq. mile were enumerated. However, urban density of households (2332) presents a picture of comparatively congested living.

1. West Nimar District Census Hand Book, 1961, p. Li
2. Ibid., p. Lii.

Rural Urban Population

The District is about 3,751.4 sq. miles in its extent (9716.1 sq. km.) comprising 3,739.9 sq. miles of rural and 11.5 sq. miles of urban area. The former Contained 86.06 per cent, while the latter 13.94 per cent of the District population in 1961. Khargone with 35,396 persons is the most urbanized Tahsil in the District, whereas, Bhikangaon is the least in this respect.

According to 1961 Census, there were 1,715 inhabited and 325 uninhabited villages, and 13 towns in the District. As a consequence of the definition of town[1] adopted in 1961 Census, three new townships have emerged, *viz.*, Kasrawad and Gogaon in Khargone Tahsil, and Bhikangaon in the Tahsil of the same name. The number of villages and towns in 1961 can be seen from the following Table : -

Tahsil	Villages		Rural Population	No. of Towns	Urban Population
	Inhabited	Uninhabited			
Barwaha	230	87	88,794	2	22,318
Maheshwar	153	53	59,740	2	13,570
Barwani	172	13	87,922	1	17,446
Rajpur	189	10	123,028	2	18,985
Kasrawad	169	58	76,440	1	5,927
Sendhwa	249	1	138,925	2	20,085
Khargone	294	86	172,935	2	35,396
Bhikangaon	259	17	104,603	1	4,350

The bulk of the District population lived in small villages (below 1000 population). According to 1961 Census, 63.61 per cent of villages with less than 500 persons accounted for 31.52 per cent of population. Similarly 26.36 per cent of villages in the range of 500 to 999 accounted for 37.28 per cent of the District population. However, 8.51 per cent of villages which fall in the range of 1000-1999 persons accounted for 22.86 per cent of the population. The rest of 1.52 per cent of the villages which fall in the range of 2000 to 9,999 accounted for 8.34 per cent of the District population.

The urban population increased from 27,027 in 190[1] to 1,38,077 in 1961, while the rural population increased from 306,221 to 852,387 during the same period. The net variation amounted to about 410.70 per cent in the former and 178.37 per cent in the latter. The distribution of population in rural and urban

1. 'A' Town in 1961 Census had to be either :—
   (I) a municipality, cantonment or corporation;
   (II) a habitation with a population of at least 5,000, at least, three-fourths of the adult male population being engaged in non-agricultural occupations.

break-up, and its variation since 1901 is shown in the following Table:—

Year	Urban			Rural		
	Population	Percentage to total population	Percentage decade variation	Population	Percentage to total population	Percentage decade variation
1901	27,027	8.11	—	306,221	91.89	—
1911	36,991	8.13	+ 36.82	418,002	91.87	+ 36.51
1921	40,056	8.00	+ 7.90	460,773	92.00	+ 10.27
1931	51,433	8.69	+ 28.86	540,590	91.31	+ 17.29
1941	67,603	9.93	+ 31.44	613,480	90.07	+ 13.48
1951	93,498	12.32	+ 38.30	665,196	87.68	+ 8.43
1961	1,38,077	13.94	+ 47.68	852,387	86.06	+ 28.14

During the last 60 years the urban population moved much faster than the rural, more particularly during the last three decades. Notwithstanding this rise, the District continues to be predominantly rural even today. The rural-urban ratio in 1961 was 1:0.16.

Of the 13 towns according to 1961 Census, Khargone, Barwaha, Barwani and Maheshwar have had continued existence as towns since 1901. Sanawad was classed as town in 1911, Anjad and Rajpur in 1931, Sendhwa in 1941, Khetia and Mandleshwar in 1951, and Kasrawad, Gogaon and Bhikangaon in 1961 Census. Variation of population in these towns, since 1901, is shown in the following Table:—

Town	Area in 1961 (sq. miles)	Population						
		1901	1911	1921	1931	1941	1951	1961
Khargone	3.91	7,624	9,423	10,610	12,157	14,851	20,762	30,652
			(+23.60)	(+12.60)	(+14 58)	(+22.16)	(+39.80)	(+47.64)
Barwani	0.68	6,277	7,279	8,395	8,949	12,569	13,896	17,446
			(+15.96)	(+15.33)	(+ 6.60)	(+40.45)	(+10.56)	(+25.55)
Sendhwa	0.26	..	..	...	..	5,635	8,390	13,247
							(+48.89)	(+57.89)
Barwaha	0.60	6,094	7,184	6,515	6,650	7,302	8,462	11,188
			(+17.89)	(— 9.31)	(+ 2.07)	(+ 9.80)	(+15.89)	(+32.21)
Sanawad	3.16	..	3,506	7,607	7,341	7,974	9,469	11,130
				(+116.97)	(—3.50)	(+ 8.62)	(+18.75)	(+17.54)
Anjad	0.21	..	..	...	4,833	6,594	8,114	10,525
						(+36.44)	(+23.05)	(+29.71)
Rajpur	0.10	..	..	..	5,104	5,732	6,753	8,460
						(+12.30)	(+17.81)	(+25.28)
Maheshwar	0.92	7,042	9,599	6,788	6,399	6,946	7,525	8,089
			(+36.31)	(—29.28)	(— 5.73)	(+ 8.55)	(+ 8.34)	(+ 7.50)
Khetia	0.47	..	..	..	..	..	5,033	6,838
								(+35.86)
Kasrawad	0.12	—	...	...	—	..	—	5,927
Mandleshwar	0.28	—	..	...	—	..	5,094	5,481
								(+ 7.60)
Gogaon	0.10	..	..	..	...	..	..	4,744
Bhikangaon	0.69	..	—	..	..	..	..	4,350

Note.—(Figures in brackets indicate percentage decade variation).

During the last 60 years since 1901, the population of Khargone town swelled by 302 per cent, followed by Barwani which increased by 178 per cent. During the same period Barwaha and Maheshwar, increased by 83.6 per cent and 14.9 per cent, respectively.

LANGUAGE

It will not be an exaggeration to say that the District is virtually the "babel of tongues", since as many as 76 speeches have been returned as mother-tongue in Census 1961. Unlike most of the other districts of the State, where overwhelming majority speak, only one language, *viz.*, Hindi, linguistic homogeniety is considerably affected in case of West Nimar. The highest proportion of population, however, speaks, Nimadi (31 per cent). Hindi relegates to second position with only 27 per cent speakers, and Barel to third, which was spoken by about 17 per cent of the District population in 1961. The other major mother-tongues are Bhilali, Bhili, Marathi, Urdu, Gujarati, Banjari and Marwari, which together account for about 23.5 per cent of the population.

The following Table gives the number of speakers of a few numerically important mother-tongues according to Census 1961:—

Language	Total			Rural	Urban
	Persons	Males	Females		
Hindi	2,67,150	1,37,730	1,29,420	2,09,295	57,855
Barel	1,71,472	86,698	84,774	1,71,250	222
Nimadi	3,08,980	1,55,891	1,53,089	2,79,968	29,012
Bhilali	73,642	37,368	36,274	72,653	989
Bhili	37,784	19,982	17,802	36,535	1,249
Marathi	31,782	16,301	15,481	19,684	12,098
Urdu	28,856	14,998	13,858	6,030	22,826
Gujarati	27,568	13,961	13,607	20,984	6,584
Banjari	15,862	8,500	7,362	15,851	11
Marwari	12,354	6,585	5,769	9,219	3,135

Apart from these, the minor speeches are Bundelkhandi (1,121), Kathiawadi (1,094), Khandeshi (3,011), Malvi (1,362), Punjabi (1,801) and Sindhi (1,082), which together claim one per cent of the population as speakers. Besides 60 other speeches, which together account for 0.5 per cent of the total population include Dargundi, Hindustani, Mankari, Bhuani, Brijbhasha, Charani, Gondi, Kalbeli, Kol, Mewari, Pardeshi, Persian, Purbi, Rajasthani and Telugu.

Broadly the Census 1961 classified these speeches in five broad groups, *viz.*, Bhili, Rajasthani, Hindi, Gujarati and Marathi. "Bhili group includes, Baori, Barel, Bhili and Bhilali speeches, which together account for 29.6 per cent speakers. The Rajasthani group includes Nimadi, Banjari, Marwari, Malvi, Rajasthani, Gujari and Kalbeli languages, and these together have 34.3 per cent of the

population as speakers. The Gujarati group including the Gadaria and Kathiawadi speeches accounts for 2.9 per cent speakers, while the Marathi group consisting of Marathi and Mahari speeches accounts for 3.2 per cent of the population. These five groups of speeches, together with Urdu, account for 98.9 per cent of the population of the District.

Grierson, commenting on Nimadi, observes "in North Nimar Malwi has become so mixed up with Khandeshi and the Bhili language that it has become a new dialect called Nimari, and possessing peculiarities of its own". "Nimadi", Grierson further observed "can, however, hardly be called a true dialect in the sense in which we call Marwari, Jaipuri Mewari and Malwi dialects of Rajasthani. It is rather a mixed patois made up of several languages with Malvi for its basis".[1] Nimadi is returned as the most widely spoken mother-tongue in the rural areas of Barwaha, Maheshwar, Rajpur, Khargone and Bhikangaon Tahsils. In Barwani Tahsil, though third most widely spoken speech, it has still quite a sizeable proportion of the population among its speakers. Surprisingly enough, in Kasrawad which is hemmed in by tahsils where Nimadi is the prevalent mother-tongue, the proportion of Nimadi speakers is not much above 1 per cent of the rural population. This gives rise to the suspicion that in Kasrawad Tahsil many persons have returned Hindi as their mother-tongue in place of Nimadi. Another interesting fact is that the number of persons speaking Nimadi as mother-tongue, in 1961, was 95.7 per cent (almost a 100 per cent increase) more than the 1951 number.

"Hindi, which has been returned as the mother-tongue of 27 per cent of the population is the second most widely spoken speech in the District. It has been returned as mother-tongue by a very large proportion of the rural population of Kasrawad Tahsil. In the rural areas of Barwaha, Maheshwar, Rajpur, Sendhwa, Khargone and Bhikangaon Tahsils, Hindi is the mother-tongue of the second most numerous group of persons. Hindi speakers are insignificantly small in proportion in the rural areas of Barwani Tahsil. As compared with 1951, speakers of Hindi as mother-tongue, have suffered a decrease of 2.7 per cent in the District. This again points to some sort of confusion between Hindi and Nimadi returns of the 1951 and 1961 Censuses because of the popular identification of Nimadi as a dialect of Hindi. The common man does not perhaps recognise that Hindi and Nimadi or even Rajasthani, of which Nimadi is treated as a dialect by the Linguist, are separate languages, but regards the other two speeches as dialects of Hindi.

"Barel, a language belonging to the Bhili group of languages is the third most widely spoken speech in the District. It is not only the mother-tongue of the highest proportion of the rural population of Barwani and Sendhwa Tahsils, but has considerable proportion of speakers also in rural areas of Rajpur, Khargone, and Bhikangaon Tahsils, in each of which it is the third most widely spoken mother-tongue. This is the speech of the Barela sub-tribe of the Bhils".

1. Quoted: Holkar State Census, 1931, p. 223.

Again, this is another instance of the linguistic confusion, that sometimes is found in Census returns, owing to predilections of the local people. There were no speakers of this speech in the District in 1951, obviously pointing to their inclusion in Bhili and *Bhilali in 1951*, whose *speakers have declined by 70.4 per cent* and *34.8 per cent, respectively in strength since 1951.* "A *better picture emerges, if* we compare after grouping Barel, *Bhili* and *Bhilali* returns in *1961*, and Bhili and Bhilali returns in 1951. This gives us an increase of 17.6 per cent which compares with a population increase of 31 per cent (general population). G.A. Grierson regards Bhili, "as a bridge between Gujarati and Rajasthani, and remarks that Bhili might with propriety be looked upon as an eastern dialect of Gujarat". The various dialects of Bhili, i.e., Barela and Bhilali, have borrowed from the neighbouring Marathi but Khandeshi is more mixed with Marathi, which is said even to invade the grammatical structure of the language to small extent. Grierson was not able to say how far the dialect Barel and Bhilali differ from the standard dialect Bhili".[1]

"Urdu is the mother-tongue of 3.9 per cent of the population. Its speakers are concentrated to the extent of 79 per cent or four-fifths in urban areas of the District. It is interesting to note that Urdu speakers have recorded a 164 per cent increase over their 1951 number.

"Speakers of Gujarati and Kathiawadi add upto 2.9 per cent of the population. Speakers of Gujarati in rural areas are concentrated mostly in Rajpur, Barwani, Khargone and Sendhwa Tahsils. They have increased by 38 per cent since 1951, which even suggests some immigration.

"Another speech which has a sizeable proportion of the population as speakers is Banjari. This is regarded as a language of the Rajasthani family. and accounts for 1.6 per cent of the population. Banjari is a mixed form of speech, with Rajasthani as its basis, the other element consisting of borrowing from the speech of the locality where the speakers of the language happen to dwell. The speech is apparently the mother-tongue of the Banjara community. Speakers of this mother-tongue have recorded an increase of 25.9 per cent since 1951, which is commensurate with the general population increase".[2]

Bilingualism

The great diversity of speech has resulted in creating large areas of bilingualism in the District. According to 1961 Census the majority of persons having mother-tongue other than Hindi, spoke Hindi as a subsidiary language. The important subsidiaries to Hindi are English (4,576) and Barel (2,806). However, Nimadi constitutes the next important subsidiary language to all other important mother-tongues. The extent of bilingualism among the important mother-tongues of the District is given in the following Table:—

1. West Nimar District Census Hand Book, 1961, p. LVIII.
2. Ibid.

Mother-tongue	Total No. of persons returned as speaking a language subsidiary to mother-tongue	Speakers of subsidiary language	
		Hindi	Nimadi
Banjari	2,503	1,589	824
Bhilali	3,146	1,119	924
Bhili	4,626	2,354	2,193
Barel	11,366	8,982	2,059
Gujarati	9,139	6,940	986
Hindi	12,310	—	—
Marathi	9,375	7,543	323
Marwari	3,735	3,047	325
Nimadi	40,426	37,239	—
Urdu	7,687	6,650	37

RELIGION AND CASTE

According to 1961 Census, the Hindus formed 93.45 per cent of the District population, Largely, as is true of the neighbouring districts, West-Nimar is essentially homogeneous with a little sprinkling of Muslims who constitute about 5.62 per cent of the District population. The Hindus in 1961 numbered 9,25,552, and Muslims 55,628.

The population of six important religious groups is given in the following Table.—

Religion	Population		
	Persons	Males	Females
Hindus	9,25,552	4,72,004	4,53,548
Muslims	55,628	28,979	26,649
Jains	4,494	2,322	2,172
Sikhs	2,614	1,465	1,149
Christians	1,407	758	649
Buddhists	764	388	376

The number of persons professing Hinduism and Islam registered large increase over the period of 30 years, since 1901. The former increased by far the most, *viz.*, 133.3 per cent, while the latter increased by 57.9 per cent. Apart from the natural factors of growth, the increasing tendency of the tribals to return themselves as Hindus might have contributed substantially towards it. This statement is further confirmed by the fact that during this period of 30 years, since 1901 the persons professing tribal faiths registered sharp decline, so much so that by 1931 the persons of animistic faiths declined by 84.00 per cent. Jain population over this period, however, had a chequered career and remained almost stationary.

The Christians increased steadily over the period; from 20 they increased to 292 in 1931. Sikhs numbered 133 in 1931.

In 30 years ending 1961, the population of Hindus which was 4,28,674 in 1931 increased by about 116 per cent. The Muslim population which was 23,763 in 1931 registered an increase of 134 per cent by 1961.

It has already been stated that the Hindus formed a great bulk of the District population. But in south and south-western tract of this District the preponderance of tribals is more marked.

The important castes in the District as per 1931 Census were Rajput, Brahmins and Bania, while among the other castes, Balai, Kulmi, Ahir, Gujar, Banjara were important. Of the tribal population, Bhilalas and Bhils alongwith their sub-divisions dominated the tract while Korku and Gond were also found. Barelas, who were quite in significant numbers, largely inhabited this tract.

Rajputs

Rajputs have spread over the entire area but predominate in Khargone, Maheshwar and Kasrawad *Parganas* of the District. Their main occupation is agriculture, or they are Patels or village headmen. Shiva and his consort 'Parwati' are their favourite deity. Besides, each family has its tutelary goddess to whom daily obeisance is made. Sirwis (Sirvis) a cultivating caste by one tradition were the descendants of Rajputs. The Sirvis also known as Marus found in this District are also by tradition of Rajput origin. Weaving is their traditional occupation, and Maheshwar's weaving industry provided considerable employment. But the gradual decay of the same obliged them to take to agriculture.

Brahmins

The Brahmins who predominated in Khargone, Maheshwar and Barwaha Tahsils are no longer exclusively a priestly caste. The superior intelligence and the heritage of the past had earned them important places in all the fields. The Brahmin population is composed of a large number of sub-castes, widely divergent, more or less endogamous in character. Most important among them are Deccani Brahmins. Their three main sub-castes are Konkanastha, Deshastha, and Karhade. The other immigrant sub-castes of Brahmins are Naramdeo, Shrigaur, kanyakubja or Kanauja. etc. The Naramdeo (Narmadiya) Brahmins who derived their name from the Narmada, mostly follow agriculture as their occupation.

Bania

The other orthodox division of the Hindu caste structure are Banias. Though not numerically important in this District, they constitute an important influential section of the population. They are traditionally a commercial class.

Other Castes and Tribes

According to 1961 Census the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes population was 5,06,195, constituting about 51.10 per cent of the District population.

The following Table gives the relative strength of Scheduled Castes and Tribes in the District in 1951 and 1961:—

Scheduled Castes and Tribes	Population					
	1951			1961		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
Scheduled Castes	80,711	40,013	40,698	1,05,852	53,145	52,707
Scheduled Tribes	3,09,233	1,56,589	1,52,644	4,00,343	2,01,982	1,98,361
Bhils	2,07,200	1,05,951	1,01,249	3,99,116	2,01,350	1,97,766
Bhilalas	1,00,581	49,862	50,719	—	—	—
Gonds	973	494	479	928	477	451
Sahariyas	31	30	1	—	—	—
Korkus	448	252	196	249	133	116
Other Backward Classes	83,507	43,070	40,437	—	—	—
Total Backward Classes	4,73,451	2,39,672	3,33,779	5,06,195	2,55,127	2,51,068

(Note.—Bhils in 1961 include Bhilalas, Barela, Patelia and other sub-tribes).

Bhils

The name 'Bhil' is 'supposed to be derived from the Dravidian word for a bow, which is characteristic weapon of the tribe.' Major Hendley stated that according to the tradition in the *Mahabharata*, the God 'Krishna' was killed by a Bhil's arrow when he was fighting against them in Gujarat with the Yadavas. The Bhils have largely lost their own language and consequently, it is difficult to ascertain whether it was Kolarian or Dravidian. But there is nothing against its being Kolarian in G. Griersons's opinion.[1] Russell also endorsed the view on the grounds that Dravidian tribes had not penetrated so far west as Central India and Gujarat in appreciable number.[2]

"Crooks observed that according to local tradition the Bhils were once a ruling race in Rajputana, Central India and Gujarat,....and it is believed that they were reduced to subjection by the States of Rajputana, Malwa and Gujarat. This claim is recognised by their overlords, and whenever a Rajput chief succeeds to the throne it is necessary part of the rite of investiture, that his brow should be marked with blood, drawn from the thumb or toe of a Bhil."[3]

Bhils are the most numerous of the primitive tribes in the District, constituted of Mankar, Nayak, Patelia, Tadavi, etc., which are merely the sections of the great Bhil tribe. Of these, Tadavis have embraced Islam. The Bhil tribe professes Hindu or tribal religions, but this distinction is totally unreliable. Most of them now are Hinduised. They mostly reside in the rural hilly tracts

1. R. V. Russell and Hiralal, Tribes and Castes of the Central Provinces Vol. II pp. 273-79.
2. Ibid.
3. Nimar District Gazetteer. 1908, p. 76.

of Maheshwar, Sendhwa, Khargone, Barwaha and Barwani Tahsils. The Bhils have emigrated from Jodhpur and Udaipur to their present habitate in the Vindhyan and Satpura slopes.

Since Rajputs seem to have treated Bhils leniently, inter-marriage with them was frequent, which probably gave rise to a new tribe of Bhilala.[1] There are numerous septs among the Bhils, named after plants or animals to which they show reverence. "The Moharia sept worshipped the local goddess at the village of Moharia in Indore State, who is known as the 'Moharia Mata.' At their weddings they apply turmeric and oil to the figures of the goddess before rubbing them on the bride and bridegroom. The Maoli sept worship a goddess of that name in Barwani town........Women of the sept are not allowed to visit the shrine of the goddess, but may worship her at home."[2]

Traditionally, marrying in one's own sept, and in the families of mother and grand-mother is prohibited among Bhils. Hence, the union of first cousins is prohibited; nor can the girls be exchanged in marriage between two families. However, Mohammadan Bhils (Tadavis) permit marriage with maternal uncle's daughter.

Marriage used to be infant, but adult marriage was also prevalent, and bride-price used to be paid. The services of Brahmins were not required for marriage. Merely joining of the hands, when the sun is half-set, completes the marriage. Marriage by capture used to be once common and relics thereof are still discernible in the institution of *Bhagoria hat*.

Widow-marriage is traditionally permitted. A wife may be divorced for adultery without consulting the Panchayat. Polygamy is traditionally sanctioned.

The Bhils pantheon has many gods and goddesses, headed by Raja Pantha, their highest god. They also worship snake. They worship Hindu deities, and the village godlings of the locality as well. The more favourite is Khande Rao or Khandoba.

Bhilala, Barela

The Bhilala and Barela are commonly considered to be of mixed origin. Bhilalas in 1951 numbered 1,00,581, whereas the population of Barelas is not found separately. The Census 1961 enumerated Bhils, Bhilalas and Barelas together as 3,99,116 in the District. Separately, the Bhilalas in 1961 numbered 1,41,997 as against 71,866 Bhils. As for the concentration of Barelas the 1931 Census observed. "It should be noted that Barelas are confined to Nimar...... over three fourths of their number are found in Sendhwa alone."[3] Next come the neighbouring tracts of Khargone and Segaon.

1. R. V. Russell and Hiralal, op. cit., p. 281.
2. Ibid., p. 287.
3. Holkar State Census, 1931, Pt. I, p. 253.

Bhilala landlords usually have the title of *Rao* or *Rawat*. Their primary occupation is cultivation of land, Bhilalas are traditionally divided into exogamous groups, called *Kul* or *Kuri*, several names of which were of totemistic origin derived from those of animals and plants. A man is traditionally forbidden to take a wife from within his own sept or that of his mother's. The union of first cousins is also prohibited.

The tribal groups of Bhils, Bhilalas and Balais (Kotwals) do not show high degree of functional, ritual or economic status rigidities. No doubt Bhils, Bhilalas, and Kotwals (Balais) do fall into a status hierarchy headed by Bhilalas, followed by Bhils, and Kotwals forming the lowest rung. Bhilalas do not eat food cooked by either Bhils or Kotwals. A Bhilala would not go inside a Kotwal's house. Bhils, however, can enter the verandah of a Bhilala's house.[1] The economic status of Bhils is still very low, and has not shown substantial signs of improvement.

Commonly, all these tribes cremate their dead. If the death is due to some disease (except smallpox or one of the so many natural calamities) then the dead person is ceremonially cremated, with *pujara* (badwah) performing the rites connected with the death of a clansman. In cases of death by smallpox or fight then he is buried. In the latter case the death calls for a memorial at the place of death. A stone tablet is erected here.

The marriage among Bhilala is accompanied with rather elaborate ceremonies. However, every Bhilala does not undergo the rituals of marriage. Parents largely negotiate for it through *bhajgadia* (middlemen), and an auspicious day is fixed for the marriage. Bride-price is paid in a function called *sanwabharna*. The first day of marriage is known among them as *tola-parna*, in which all invities keep awake all the night, singing and dancing. The next day the *pujara* (*badwah*) comes to perform *ghirasari pujan*, the goddess of the household. The bridegroom is then decorated with turmeric, collyrum and *mehandi* for the *barkaslagan* ceremony, followed by *vende bharna*, when the *pujara* fills a pitcher with water, and places it under the *mandwa*.

After the arrival of the marriage party at bride's village, *bhelki* ceremony follows. The climax of the marriage takes place when the bridegroom and the bride take eight rounds of the central pole, *mandwa*, while *pujara* chants incantations. This seals the marriage.[2] They worship ordinary Hindu deities, but each family also has *kul-devi* or household—goddess.

Bhagoria Hat

In this District, *Bhagoria hat*, literally meaning the market of running away is one of the main attractions among the social lives of Bhils and Bhilalas. It is

1. G. S. Aurora, Bamanta Socio-Economic Monograph of a Tribal Village, 1963, p. 76.
2. Ibid., pp. 94-97.

like a mass swayamvara where young people of either sex (usually males) choose their life-partner.

Immediately preceding the Holi festival, these *hats* are held on the regular market day. The boy follows the chosen girl (whom he knows and believes that he can marry according to the tribal law of clan-exogamy). On getting suitable opportunity, he applies *gulal* (red farinaceous powder) on her face. If the girl reciprocates the gesture by applying *gulal* on the boy's face, that is taken as acceptance by her of the boy's proposal. After this the marriage ceremony is usually performed in a normal manner by the parents. It is reported that best *Bhagoria* is held in village Palsud in Rajpur Tahsil[1]. Other important places of *Bhagoria* are Sendhwa, Jhopali, Dhanora, Bardalo in Sendhwa Tahsil, Barla, Balwadi, Chacharia, Manbod under Barla Police Station; Rajpur, Julwaniya Palsud, Anjad, Bafphatak in Rajpur Tahsil and Nagalwadi, Onjhar, Khetia, Newali, Mahenda and Pansemal, also in Sendhwa Tahsil.

Balai and Chamars

Balai, an important caste in the District, is a typical caste of Malwa. Balais constitute about 6.96 per cent of the District population according to 1961 Census. They predominated in the Barwaha, Maheshwar, Khargone and Kasrawad Tahsils. The Chamars, whose traditional occupation was working in leather, were found to be agriculturists also. The Chamars according to 1961 Census numbered 11,350, and formed the third largest group; the second being that of the Kolis.

"The Nimar Balahis are a low caste of weavers and village servants, living in the southern part of the adjoining Holkar State and Nimar District of Central Provinces. Originally they are a branch of the Kori caste of the United Provinces, but have received many accretions from other Hindu castes.......''[2] About 40 per cent of the examined clans under Anthropometric Survey 'in 1941 Census claimed non-Balai ancestors. "The average Balahi is of medium height, though tall as well as short and stocky individuals are not rare. As the races with whom the Balais have mixed (Rajputs, Kachhis, etc.) are all of more than medium size, the conclusion is justified that original Balahis have been rather short in stature."[3] The caste is sub-divided into exogamous groups. The marriages are generally fixed in consultation with Balai Brahmans. They had the practice of serving a period of apprenticeship for a wife, known as *gharjamai* or *lamjhana*.

Koli

It is a primitive caste, akin to Bhils, who were the residents of western Satpura Hills. They numbered 13,100 in 1961. The Kolis are considered low in social scale. When the Maratha power was on the wane, and the gangs of plunderers roamed at large, the Kolis also acquired some reputation as thieves and robbers. But now they have resorted to a peaceful life, and are mostly agriculturists or common labourers.

1. West Nimar District Census Hand Book, 1961, p. Lxvi.
2. Holkar State Census, 1941, p. 291.
3. Ibid., p. 292.

Among less numerous Scheduled Castes, the Meghwals account for 2.4 per cent, Zamrals 1.8 per cent, Mahars 1.7 per cent and the Mehtars or Bhangis 1.5 per cent of the total Scheduled Castes population in the District in 1961. Meghwals are entirely concentrated in Barwani, Rajpur and Kasrawad Tahsils. The Zamrals are described as "small localised group of Basors in Nimar portion of Malwa, divided into two endogamous divisions. They are here probably derived from the Vindhyan Bhils."[1] The Zamrals who accounted for 1.8 per cent of the Scheduled Caste Population, weave mats of *Khajur* or palm leaves, which is their traditional household industry. Bargunda (891) who also mostly work in the household industry of mat-weaving from palm-leaves is considered to be wandering caste of Dravidian origin. Bagri and Bagdi, considered to be a wandering tribe from Rajputana descended from Rajput alliance from primitive tribes. Pardhi is reported to be a wandering caste of hunters and fowlers. Nat (Kalbelia and Sapera) are professional acrobats.

Muslims

Muslims numbered 15,046 in 1901. By 1931 they increased by about 57.9 per cent, and further by 234 per cent by 1961. In 1961 they numbered 55,628 (males 28, 979 and females 26,649).

The local Muslim population includes over forty occupational groups. Majority of them were the descendants, partly of the Pindari marauders from Deccan. A section of the latter formed the bulk of rural population, and retained even Hindu names, and practised worship. The influence of Hindus was more so in matters of dress, habits, speech, etc. The growing of beard is still favoured by some orthodox ones. The *pardah* has still a strong hold over the higher class female-folk, and as a consequence the *burka* (the black-cloak) is largely worn by them. Widow marriage is allowed. The Shia sect of Bohora is not prominent in this tract as was in case of Indore.

Jains and Others

Among other communities in the District, Jains, Sikhs and Christians are important. The Jains numbered 4,494 and Sikh 2,614 and Christian 1,407 in 1961. These communities have a strong bias for urban areas. For the spread of Christianity, Missionaries had been active in the District for a considerable period of time. The Missionery centres at Mandleshwar in Maheshwar Tahsil, Pendharnya village of Sendhwa Tahsil, and at Barwani are a few to mention. The Missionaries generally maintain a dispensary, school, boarding-house, etc., and preach Christianity.

SOCIAL LIFE

Property and Inheritance

The principal religious groups, *viz.*, Hindus and Muslims in matters of descent and inheritance are governed by their respective laws. To regulate the

1. Central India Agency Census Report, 1931, p. 229.

succession, Indore State enacted Indore Succession Certificate Act No. XV of 1937, and three years later Indore Transfer of Property Act No. V of 1940 was passed. The Women's right to property was regulated by the Indore Hindu Women's Right to Property Act XIII of 1940 Now Succession in case of Hindus, and those governed by the Hindu law, is regulated by the Hindu Succession *Act of 1956.*

Traditionally among the Bhils the property is usually divided in increasing proportion according to the seniority. The eldest gets the largest, and youngest the smallest share. They also divide the debts of the father in the same proportion. Daughters have no right in property, save when brothers are not there. Sometimes heirs who are entitled for a share in the father's property, by mutual agreement, distribute the implements, cash, etc., in an agreed manner. Generally, the disputes in the matter are referred to Panchayats for arbitration, and the award is usually acceptable to all concerned.

The family in this region is largely patrilineal. It is common for a man to live with his wife and children, and some lineally related dependents in the same household. According to the sample of households recorded in 1961 Census, about 26.4 per cent of the households, were small with three or less members, and 42.4 per cent of 'medium size' consisting of 4 to 6 members. The 'large-size' households, with 7 to 9 members, constituted about 22.1 per cent of the total sample households, and only 9.1 per cent were 'very large' with 10 members or more.

It appears that the traditional joint-family system is not noticeable; though very large families constituting about 9.1 per cent of the households covered about a fifth of the District population. Among the tribal-folk, after the marriage, the son and his wife are free to move to a separate hutment or house. Transfer of property through will is not generally practised.

Marriage and Morals

The higher castes in the District, *viz.*, Brahmins, Rajputs and Banias are largely monogamous, but there are examples when a man may have a second wife under certain circumstances and conditions. Bhils permit polygamy for economic reasons or social dignity. Kulmis also permit it, and those who can afford keep more than one wife as the wife's labour is more efficient.

Restrictions of Marriage alliances

The caste as a segmentary division of the society is largely endogamous in character, and traditionally marriage alliances within the confines of the endogamous castes remain to be an ideal in the District. Bhils also observe endogamy and among them marriage with a girl of other tribe is generally prohibited. Caste as an endogamous group in itself includes a cluster of sub-castes with somewhat the same ritual status. Of the three principal sub-castes of Deccani Brahmins in the State, most numerous were Deshastha, the other two being

Konokanastha and Kharhade. All of them are traditionally endogamous in character, and restrict inter-marriage.

The sub-castes among the Hindus are further sub-divided into several exogamous *gotras* in which marriage is prohibited traditionally. Both the parallel and cross-cousins are regarded as brothers and sisters, and marriage is not favoured among them. But these prohibited degrees are transgressed sometimes. Two other limits to the selection of a spouse are ancestry (*khandan*) and restrictions imposed by demography and distance. A.C. Mayer observed that in Malwa region, which is socially and geographically between the north, where no marriage is allowed into these settlements with common boundaries, and south where inter-village matches are quite normal, the marriage though allowed within the village is not very well regarded. The Bhils, traditionally, do not marry in their own sept, nor in the families of their mother and grand mother. They also observe the territorial exogamy, and marriage within the village is looked down upon. The union of cross-cousins is preferred. However, Mohammandan Bhils permit a man to marry his maternal uncle's daughter. The Bhilalas, to avoid marriage between relations, are also divided into exogamous groups called *kul* or *kuri*, and marriage in the sept or that of his mother's and the union of first cousins is forbidden, traditionally. Among Chamars, generally the union of first cousins is prohibited. Adult marriage is the rule, but the ambition of social ascendancy has resulted into theirs' adopting early marriage of girls under the influence of upper Hindu castes.

Among Muslims, the marriage is traditionally prohibited to an ordinary near relative but not between the first cousins. A man cannot marry his wife's sister during his wife's life time.

Marriage Customs and Rituals Including Dowry

Marriage (*vivah*) is one of the sixteen classical stages (*samskara*) in a person's life, and is by far the most important in its economic and social aspects. The marriage among Hindus is regarded as a sacrament and not a socialcontract, as among the Muslims.

The wedding provides a complex of rites which are as varied and divergent in details as are the castes and sub-castes in the District. Generally, the marriage in the region is negotiated by the parents in consultation with the family, village priest and caste Panchayats, both among the Hindus (including tribal-folk) and Muslims. Having agreed and approved the match the Bhil parents exchange the cups of wine and turbans, which seals the betrothal. The bride-price is paid ceremonially; called *sanwa-bharna* sometimes after the engagement.

Though of late marital age has advanced considerably, more so in the urban society, yet in some sections of the rural society the age-old practice of early marriage appears to be still prevalent. The Census 1931 recorded that infant marriage in this tract is negligible, and child marriage not very wide-spread, but

marriage at the ages 10.15 has been common.[1] The castes or tribes who allow widow marriage appear to practise early marriage.

The normal Hindu marriage starts with an invocation to 'Ganesh' and with the seating of the spouse, *bana baithana*. The application of turmeric, *haldi lagana* characterises the week-long ceremonies. A tastefully decorated marriage booth, *mandap*, is generally erected in the spouses[2] house, under which every wedding ritual and worship of clan goddess, etc., is performed to invoke blessings.

The next day is called *gharvivah*, when the Mother Goddess, 'Mai Mata' is worshipped by the bridegroom. The mother's natal clansmen, *mamere*, give presents to the bridegroom's family. In some sections it is known as *bhat*, followed by a feast thrown by groom's father. On the third day the groom leaves for the bride's place with his party, known as *barat*. Among the Bhils and Bhilalas also the marriage ceremony usually takes place at the Bride's house.[3] In a Bhil wedding the women, with the exception of mother of the bridegroom, accompany the procession, while women in other castes do not. The *barat* is received with great courtesy at bride's village. The arrival of a Bhil *barat* is marked with gunfire. The main rites start in the evening of the same day. When a Bhil bridegroom reaches the bride's house, he strikes the marriage-shed with a dagger, or some sharp instrument. The bride and the bridegroom thereafter are conducted in front of 'Mai Mata'. The family or caste priest chanting certain verses ties their clothes together and places the horoscopes, *janmpatri*, in their hands. In a Bhil marriage the wife of the headmen, *Vasavi* has the privilege to dress the bride and lead her to the marriage *pandal*. She is also entifled to one bottle of liquor and some money.

The following day is known after the most important rite, *phera* or *caunri*. This is the pair's seven circumambulation of the sacred fire amidst the chanting of verses by the priest. Bhils do not generally engage Brahmin; they have their own priest known in some parts as *pujro* or *pujra*. Among the Bhils, at this time four women approach the booth, and mark the foreheads of the couple with rice and red powder. The bride's kins thereafter come out with gifts and presents, including the ornaments for the bride. The bride's father also gives away the dowry, *dahej*, to bridegroom's father.[3]

With this conclude the marriage rites. The bridegroom and the party leave for their home-town, *bida* alongwith the bride, after the final worship of 'Mai Mata'. The threshold of the parental house is also worshipped in some castes. Among the Bhilalas, while performing marriage they also perform *Satya narain ki Katha*.

Certain rites are also performed when the bride reaches the bridegroom's house, which includes the worship of 'Mai Mata'.

1. Holkar State Census, 1931, Pt. I, p. 137.
2. G.S. Aurora, op. cit., p. 96.
3. A.C. Mayer, Caste and Kinship in Central India, pp. 225-34.

Dowry in one or other form is prevalent in every caste. A.C. Mayer observed that the size of the dowry was never fixed between them nor the exact value of the presents given by the groom's parents to the bride's, and vice-versa. But among the upper-castes, the cash settlement forms an important feature, more so in the urban society. It has started assuming scandalous proportion depending upon the merits of the boy.[1] Among the Bhils and Bhilalas, on the contrary, the payment of the bride-price is current. The amount of the same varies from tract to tract. The practice of bridegroom's serving for his wife among the Bhils and Bhilalas, and also Balai caste, finds sanction in tradition, and is known as *lamjhana*. Among the Muslims, the practice of bride-price is prevalent in the shape of *mehr* which is the consideration for marriage paid by the bridegroom to the bride on demand. Among the more advanced sections of the society, dowry has undergone a change in its nomenculture, and assumed the name of 'presentation'.

Panchayat for Bhils is an important part of their social organisation. All the disputes arising out of marriage alliances are referred to it, and award is accepted.

Muslim Marriage

No specific rites or religious ceremonies are necessary for the contraction of a valid marriage among the Muslims. The marriage is generally arranged by the parents and *Qazi* performs it. The betrothal or *magni* is the settlement of the match, followed by the principal ceremony of *nikah* which puts a seal of sanction of the society and law. Islam recognises marriage as a contract signed by the parties in presence of witness. Formal consent of the girl is a necessary pre-requisite for a valid marriage. As said earlier, the consideration for the contract is called *mehr* or alimony, which is paid by the bridegroom to the bride on demand.

Among the wanderer tribe of Banjaras, heavy bride-price used to be paid in the past. Russell noted a curious tradition among them, which required the bridegroom to stay in the bride's house prior to the wedding to provide liquor to the male relatives of the girl.[2]

Among the Chamars, the marriage is generally arranged by the parents, and bride-price is prevalent. The marriage follows the local Hindu pattern.

Traditionally, the Hindu woman can go through the marriage (*samskar*) only once. Hence among the upper-castes, widow marriage is prohibited, and is generally looked down upon. Traditionally, the widow marriage enjoys sanction of society among the tribal-folk, *viz.*, Bhil, Bhilala and Barelas, and some other Scheduled Castes too, *viz.*, Balai, Chamar, Koli, etc. In case a Bhil widow does not marry her *dero*, (husband's younger brother), she has to pay

1. K.M. Kapadia, Marriage and Family in India, p. 128.
2. R.V. Russell and Hiralal, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 173.

a customary due to him. The widow generally abstains, from using *galseni*, *bichhiya*, *churi*, *kumkum*, and leads a life of austerity. Among the Mohammadans there is no bar on widow marriage and divorce.

Birth Rites

The birth of a child is rejoiced with songs, and in some castes the practice of gun-fire on the occasion of the birth of a boy was widely prevalent. The birth of a girl among some castes is not a matter of much happiness. Perhaps it has its reflection in the custom of paying large dowry in marriage of girls among the upper castes. Among the lower sections of the society, and tribal-folk, usually, after 5-7 days of birth a function is held, in which the caste bretherens are entertained. Among Bhils on the fifth day (sometimes seventh day) she offers *sindur* and coconut to the Gods, and cleans her room and takes bath. She gets pure thereafter. The women (only of neighbourhood) are invited to liquor. Among the upper sections of the rural society the name-giving ceremony takes place on the 12th day.

Mortuary Rites

The Hindu (including Bhils) cremate their dead, (except the infants who are burried). Bhils do not put the dead on the ground but allow the corps to lie on the cot. A very curious ritual takes place among the Bhils after the dead body is washed and dressed. The deceased's wife or husband as the case may be has to lie with the dead body for some time.[1] The Banjaras generally cremate the dead. The dead is usually put on a bier and is taken to the cremation ground on the shoulders. The procession is headed by the chief mourner, the eldest son, who carries smouldering cowdung cake in an earthern pot. He sets alight the pyre, and the chief mourner remains secluded and does not go about the village.[2] On the third day the ashes are collected and cooled into some nearby stream by the chief mourner or taken to some sacred river.

The main rite of purification is held after 10 days in case of a woman, and 11 days in case of man, locally known as *gantaor*, *kriyakaram*. The chief mourner alongwith a few agnates goes to nearby sacred stream, where they shave their hair, beard and moustaches. The Bhils do it on the third day, and throw a dinner called *kaitu* on the 12th day.[3] Mayer observed that though this rite is said to be confined to agnates, but sometimes the neighbours also accompany, and shave their head.[4]

The subsequent rites are *pagri*, *nukta* and *sradha*. *Pagri* rite among the Rajputs is observed a day after the *ganta* when the chief mourner is divested of his white turban and is given a coloured one instead by the uterine kins. Immediately after this a feast is thrown, called *nukta* to the caste brethren.

1. T.B. Naik, The Bhils, p. 162.
2. A widow does not leave the house at all.
3. T.B. Naik, op. cit., p. 167.
4. A.C. Mayer, op. cit., p. 235.

The *sradha* is observed in the dark fortnight of the month of Bhadra. Here there is both remembrance of the recent dead and a general propitiation of all ascendants.

Drinking and Gambling

There is no restriction on the sale and consumption of liquor in any part of this District. It appears that owing to large tribal population in the District the drinking habit is widely prevalent.

The evil of gambling which has got a traditional religious sanction among the Hindus at the time of Diwali festival is prevalent in the District, both in rural as well as urban areas. The gain or the loss on the Diwali night in gambling is attributed to the forthcoming loss or gain in the coming year. But owing to the legal restrictions the ceremonial gambling has outwardly decreased. Though the offences registered under the Gambling Act in the District are no pointer to the extent of the habit prevalent among the masses, yet they give an indication of its existence. The number of cases recorded under the Act during the year 1951 were 4 which increased to 11 in 1954. In 1964, cases registered under the said Act, were 25 and 24 persons were arrested of these 7 persons were punished and 11 acquitted during the years.

The evil of prostitution has been decreasing outwardly. The promulgation of Supression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls Act, 1956, has acted as a deterrent to it. Number of cases reported under the Act during the period 1956-61 in the District was 13, of which 2 each in the years 1958, 1960 and 1961 were registered. In 1959 alone, however, five such cases were registered. Since then no case has been registered till the year ending 1964.

Home Life

Types of Dwelling

According to the 1961 Census there were 1,71,482 occupied houses in the District of which 1,47,166 were in rural and the rest 24,316 in urban tracts of the District. The former contained nearly 86.06 per cent, and the latter 13.94 per cent of the District population. On an average there were about 5.78 persons per occupied census house. The main feature of the arrangement of houses is that they are mostly of 'agglomerate type'. The persons generally avoid to keep the front of the house towards south and west which is considered to be inauspicious.

"Settlement pattern in villages varies from the usual nucleated cluster met every where else to the dispersed, a single fenced 'homestead-in-the field' type. The latter is a peculiarly Bhil trait, the house standing on the high ground in the field. This type of villages are met with on the slopes of the Satapura in Sendhwa, Barwani, Khargone and Rajpur Tahsils, and also on the Vindhyan slopes in Maheshwar and Barwaha Tahsils, these, hills being the natural habitat of the Bhils. The more acculturated Patelia Bhils have, however, taken

to the conventional type of nucleated settlements. In the plains the villages are of the usual nucleated type.[1]"

Generally Balai houses in the rural areas are built on a very low or no plinth. The majority of houses are two-sloped, and sometimes a separate thatched roof is also erected on the front verandah. A slightly raised court-yard structure is common among the higher caste-groups. It may either be at the back, enclosed by an apartment, by a compound-wall. It may sometimes be in front in single-hut domiciles, which are largely found among the low caste-groups. Verandah leads to a room structure which forms the sleeping as well as kitchen room. The hearth is placed facing the door in one corner. The storage of water is generally at a corner of the outer verandah. Mud is seen to be the most preferred material of wall in the rural areas of the District which are commonly known as *jhonpda*. About 36.4 per cent of the rural households are made of mud-walls, closely followed by grass, leaves, reeds or bamboo-wall houses (34.3 per cent). The former houses are generally found in the villages in the plains, while the latter presumably predominate in forest areas inhabited by Bhils. The other types of houses include those made of unburnt bricks (16.3 per cent), burnt bricks (3.8 per cent-commonly known as *havely*), stone (2.7 per cent), Timber (1.7 per cent), and other materials (4.8 per cent). The urban areas have the largest number of houses with unburnt bricks (5.37 per cent) and mud (20.4 per cent).

Tiled-covered roofs are most common both in rural as well as in urban areas, and account for four-fifths of the rural and more than half of the urban households. The next in frequency in all areas are houses with roof covered with corrugated iron or other metal sheets. Nearly 7.9 per cent of the houses had roof made of grass, leaves, reeds, thatch wood or bamboos.[2]

Furniture and Decoration

In an average village household, there is practically total absence of furniture. Though a few, who have come into contact with the urban areas, may have low wooden bench, chair or stools, otherwise *Charpai* (cot) is generally used for sitting and sleeping purposes. In a few urbanised households of the officials of the State Government, chairs and tables are usually found. In urban areas, well-furnished houses are not rare.

The decoration is generally absent in an average village household. It is only at the time of marriage, etc., that some coloured figures are painted on either side of the main entrance. Some floral border designs are also drawn on ceremonial occasions on the walls, and *rangoli* designs on the floor. Sometimes people paste film advertisements on the walls, apart from the framed pictures of deities, and national leaders.

1. West Nimar District Census Hand Book, 1961, p. XLVIII.
2. Ibid.

Dress of Males

The dress of an average villager remains simple and scanty. The most commonly used upper-garments are *bandi* and *kurta* (shirt), closely fitted sewn-garments. *Dhoti with Kachha* forms the lower-garments. The *soapha* (turban), which has been very common among the rural-folk, is now only used by older-folk as a head-gear. *Soapha* is an unsewn long and narrow piece of cloth, used as turban.

At the time of marriage Ahir and Bhil male folk generally wear more elegant dress. Over the *kamij* (shirt) they wear long loose coat, reaching upto knees, which is locally known as *baga*. *Dhoti* forms the lower-garment alongwith a piece of cloth tied round the waist, called *dopatta*. A colourful turban is tied at the occasion over which *more*, a kind of paper head-gear (crown) is fixed. The embroidered shoes, called *larhaoa*, are generally worn by the groom at the time of marriage. A small knife called *katar* is also tied along the waist.

Dress of Females

The average female attire among Ahirs, Bhils, etc., is a very long sari about 14 to 15 hands in length. It is draped round the body alongwith *kachha*. The Balais and Bhilalas, however, wear *ghagra* as a lower-garment with *lugra*, about four yards by one yard cloth to cover the upper-part of the body. The commonly worn upper-garments are *kanchli* and *choli* (both of short length and tightly fitted).

Kanchli is tied with two strings at the back, keeping the back side open. *Polka* is also worn by some as an upper-garment. It is a short blouse with different coloured pieces sewn together. They are gradually switching over to seven yards *lugra* and *kachha* apart from *ghagra* as lower-garments. Another change is in respect of the texture of the cloth used for *ghagra*, etc. Formerly, coarse cloth *ghagra* was in use which was locally manufactured by Balais, but owing to easily available and cheaper mill-made cloth, people are shifting to it. The Balais have altogether left their traditional occupation because of this reason.

At the weddings the female attire is more colourful. The Ahir women wear silken *choli* of red colour, *Ghagra* and *orhni* too of red colour are favoured.

Among the Bhils, at the time of wedding the females dress themselves in the same way as Ahirs but the *ghagra* and *choli* usually are of red colour. The *orhni* among them is called as *snidrari* which is usually of dark red colour, and is worn with *charsa* (a comparatively smaller piece of cloth) used as veil.

Among the immigrant Sikh women, *shalwar* and *kamij*, with *orhni* dangling on their shoulders is a popular dress. Their male-folk can, however, be distinguished with their well-groomed beared and colourful turban.

Ornaments

The ornaments worn by female in the lower strata of village population are generally made of bell-metel, black-beads, lac, etc., and those who can afford use silver ornaments.

The silver ear-rings worn at the helix region are locally known as *bali*. Two such rings are generally worn by them in each ear. At the lobe, the silver ear-ring is known as *todi*. Round the neck region, silver and black-beads necklace, *sakli* and *galsani* are generally worn. Round the wrist, four kinds of bangles are worn, known as *dal*, *kare*, *band* and *deoria*, which are generally made of silver. A silver chain is worn round the waist and is locally known as *kadra*. The silver finger-ring is known as *gole*, while the silver ring worn in great toe is called *bela*, and those in second, third and fourth digits are known as *bichhia*. The silver ornament which hangs from the lock of hair on the forehead is known as *bharamar*, and is generally worn by the lower-caste females. *Rakhri* is worn at the vortex of head by the Bhil women. Presently, old ladies only use it.

The ornament which distinguished a married Ahir, Balai, and a Bhil woman from others is *galsani*, a black-bead necklace. Neither an unmarried girl nor a widow is allowed by tradition to wear it.

Staple Food

The staple food for all sections and castes in the rural area is the bread of jowar, though the better off sections may have wheat bread instead. Rice is only taken on ceremonial occasions, like marriage, etc., in addition to wheat or jowar bread. The poorer sections of the rural masses take a sort of gruel known as *ghat*, prepared out of half-grinded jowar, maize or wheat. It is more common among the Bhil-folk.

Meals

The normal feature is to take meals thrice a day. The morning meal is taken prior to going on work, and consists of bread with chilli and salt.

The mid-day meal taken at noon on the fields consists of bread, pulse, *dal*, etc. The evening meal is taken at night, consisting of bread and *dal*, or sometimes gruel is prepared and taken with *dal*.

Other Items

Tur and moong are commonly taken by all castes and classes, but moong is more favoured by the better off section of the rural society. Urd is also grown in this tract but it does not form an item of daily diet and is considered a delicacy. Hence it is taken on ceremonial occasions in addition to moong. Though vegetables do not form a usual item of diet but those who can afford take it.

The Kayasthas of the District do not commonly take meat but Rajput, Kahar, Bhil, Balai, Bhilala, etc., take it occasionally. The Rajputs eat goat, deer, hare, chicken, *titar*, fish, and also wild pig (not domesticated one). The Kahars and Bhils in addition may also eat lamb. Formerly, because of their food habits they were regarded as untouchables and were not allowed to fetch water from common well. But now no open resistance is visible in this respect. The deep rooted tradition of their being untouchables forces them voluntarily not to fetch water from the common well. On the other hand, the fear of losing the job—for they are largely in service of higher castes—compells them not to go against the wishes of the employers.

Cleanliness

Upper castes generally cook food after taking bath. They also observe the purity of kitchen, and no one, not even the caste brethren, can enter their kitchen without bathing. Hands and mouth are washed prior and after meals among all the castes.

Utensils

The commonly used cooking utensils in an average rural household consist of a wooden-ladle, *tawa* (an ironpan used for making bread), *chimta* (tongs of iron) *Karchi*, *tapelia*, (metalled pot for cooking pulses), *chakla* and *belan* used for rolling the pasted wheat or jowar flour. Various other utensils are also used in upper classes. Among the lower castes, earthen pots not used by upper castes, are also used for cooking etc.

Amusement and Festivals

The popular sources of amusement among the villagers are simple gossip, story-telling, collective singing at the occasion of festivals or ceremonies with the accompaniment of drums, etc. Occasional exhibitions, fairs, or cultural programmes arranged by the different agencies, apart from the documentary films of the field units, and circus-shows provide ample recreation to the rural masses. In the urban areas, cinema facilities wherever available form the main source of amusement to the people.

Festivals

The Indian calendar is a long procession of festivals, of which a few are of all India stature, and are observed with enthusiasm by each community. They enliven the social life, and provide an out-let to the artistic talents. The festivals in this region are as varied in origin as they are numerous. Some have their origin in the commemoration of birth or eternal cycle of the season, while others have their origin in mythical and religious legends.

The important festivals of the Hindus in the District are Diwali, Holi, and Dussehra which are observed with great fun and frolic. Besides these, there are Gangore, Gauri-Purnima, Ram Navami in the month of Chaitra. Gangore (a female-figurine) is observed by females. In the upper-castes wheat is sown on

gyaras day in a small basket, and watered for nine days so that seeds get germinated. For nine days the females worship and sing in the evening, and *prasad* (usually of ground-nut and fried gram) is distributed. On the Tij day, Gangore, along with wheat-sapplings, is cooled in the river or a well. The purpose of this festival, and Gangore worship is to pray for the wellbeing of their husbands. Gouri-Purnima marks the beginning of Hindu new year, and houses are cleaned on this day with cowdung, etc. Dainty dishes are prepared, *viz.*, *puranpoli*, etc., for eating. Ramnavmi is observed to celebrate the birth of 'Rama' the epic hero of the *Ramayana*. Akhatij is observed in the month of Vaisakha for the betterment of the crop. The agricultural operations start from this day, and every one should plough at least a small area of the field. Dot (Dhol)-wali Amavas, in Jyaistha is observed to propitiate the Rain-God. Minor male children covering the whole body with *palas* leaves go to different houses, dancing and singing. The eldest female sprinkles water, and presents wheat or jowar to them. Similarly, small girls covering their head with *kabelu*, over which an idol of 'Indra', the Rain-God is kept, go to different houses, singing and dancing. The females sprinkle water and present them wheat and jowar. The Deosoni Gyaras, is observed in Asadha. Fast is observed and worship is performed during the day. It marks the end of marriage season for about five months among the Hindus. In the month of Sravana, Jerati-Amavas. Nagpanchmi, Bhujalia and Rakhi festivals are observed. The Jerati-Amavas is celebrated for the wellbeing of children, and Nagpanchami is observed to prevent snake-bite. On this festival the snakes are worshipped. On Rakhi day the sisters tie a thread, *rakhi*, to the wrist of brothers and offer sweets, etc. The brothers as a token of affection and protection give some gifts to the sister. In the month of Bhadra are observed the Tiji, Janma Ashtami, Pola and Anant Chaudas. Janma-Ashtami is observed to celebrate the birth of Lord Krishna. Pola-Amavas is mainly a Maratha festival for the welfare of cattle wealth. In Asvina fall *sola* Sradha, Nao Durga (Garva), Dussehra and Singh-Deo Punam. Nao Durga is observed by the females. Two new earthen pots are kept one over another under a post planted on the ground on the *parma* day (*Shukla-ekadashi*). An earthen lamp (*diva*) is kept burning in the pot for nine days, and singing and dancing continues in the evening. On the ninth day the pot and the lamp are cooled in the river. This festival is also known by the name of Garva and is identified with 'Bhavani Mata'.

Dussehra and Diwali are the principal Hindu festivals. The former stands for rejoicing over the triumph of Good over Evil, and latter is the festival of lights, when goddess of wealth, 'Laxmi', is worshipped. "Bhils have a custom of bidding good-bye to Diwali by throwing burning sticks at the trees. It is the headman *vasawo*, who does this first.[1]" Deo Uthani-Gyaras marks the resumption of marriage season, and falls in the month of Kartika.

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1. T. B. Naik, op. cit., p. 47.

The most colourful of all the festivals is Holi, which is held in the month of Phalgun to celebrate the death of 'Holika' and saving of 'Prahlad from the fire (victory of Good over Evil).

In a Bhil village Holi comes to the house of village headman, *vasawo* first. It is his privilege to light the Holi fire. Thereafter, people go and worship, and offer coconut and *gulal* (coloured-powder) to the fire. This is followed by the smearing of faces with *gulal* and coloured water is sprinkled over one another.

Immediately preceding the Holi festival, an important and eagerly awaited festival, known as *Bhagoria hat* among the Bhils and Bhilalas in the District attracts the crowds in multitude. On market days, which are actually in the nature of small fairs, the Bhils and Bhilalas choose partners in life. The procedure has already been described while dealing with these tribes separately.

The popular Muslim festivals are Id-ul-Fitr which marks the end of the solemn month of Ramzan, a month of prayers and fasting and culminating in rejoicing, and Id-ul-Zuha which is observed to commemorate the sacrifice of 'Abraham' (Ibrahim). During the day rams and goats are sacrified and feasting and rejoicing follow. Moharram, is a ten day observance of mourning, to commemorate the martyrdom of Imam Husain. Fast is observed, and beautifully made *tazias*, the replica of the tomb, and a horse *dul-dul*, (symbolic of Imam Hussain's horse) are taken out in procession with the accompaniment of heart rending dirges. Id-i-Milad or Bara-Wafat, the twelfth day of Muslim month, Rabiul-Awwal is sacred to Muslims, both as the birth and death anniversary of the holy Prophet 'Mohammad'.

Good Friday and Easter day in the month of March April and Christmas in December are important festivals among the Christian population of the District.

Guru Purab (Guru Nanak) festival among of Sikhs, is important which precedes two days of complete reading of *Granth-Sahib* in the month of November. The sacred book is also taken out in procession. In the month of December-January the birth anniversary of 'Guru Govind Singh, the tenth *Guru*, is also celebrated.

Communal Life

Pilgrimages to sacred confluence of rivers or *tirth-dham*, on the occasion of fair or eclipes, etc., have special significance in the communal life of the people.

An important *yatra* connected with a fair at Sagur in Bhikangaon Tahsil of the District is important. It is 15 days fair in Chaitra attended by about 12 thousand pilgrims of nearby areas. In the temple, Bageshwari Devi is worshipped, and people take dip in the sacred tank. It is believed that this cures diseases. Other places are Sanawad, Khargone, Bhikangaon and Dhamnod where large fairs are held, attracting a number of pilgrims. On the tomb of

saint 'Piran' at Sanawad, in Burwaha Tahsil, a large fair is held annually in the month of November for 15 days. All sections of population come and pay obeissance to the saint. A legend connected with it is that the saint produced water through his spiritual power when water famine was rampant. The biggest fair is held in Kartika at Khargone for 21 days, where 50,000 pilgrims come and worship the Navagarh temple. A one day *Urs* at Patanpur in Bhikangaon Tahsil is held in the month of Pausa on the tomb of saint 'Latif Shah', where above five to six thousand pilgrims pay homage. Yet another important pilgrim centre is Pipalya in Maheshwar Tahsil, where a 30 days' fair is held to pay obeissance to saint 'Kaluji Maharaj', who by his spiritual powers used to cure diseases. About 10 thousand persons attend the fair, and at three places the foot-prints of the saint are worshipped.

Among other important fairs and *yatras*, Durgaji-ka-mela in Chaitra at Bamandi village, Deepawali-*mela* in Asvina at Kajoori village and Dawala *yatra* in Kartika at Dawala village in Barwani Tahsil; Khanderao Baba Mela in Chaitra at Thikari village, Singhaji-ka-Mela, Bhausing Baba ka Mela and Sivratri Mela, at Khujri, Dawana and Anjad villages, respectively in Rajpur Tahsil; Ashpuri Mata-ka-Mela and Shankerji-ka-mela at Multhan and Onjar villages, respectively in Kasrawad Tahsil; and Sama Deo Baba-ka-Mela in Magha at Goradiya village in Bhikngaon Tahsil may be mentioned. A detailed list of the fairs appears in Appendix—B.

CHAPTER IV

AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION

West Nimar District lies south of Vindhyan Ranges along the Narmada Valley. There exists a great difference in the soils of the District. Six tahsils of the District are mostly inhabited by the tribals, *viz.*, Bhils, Bhilalas, Barelas and Banjaras. The non-tribal cultivating castes of the District are Patidar, Shirvies Kulmi, Ahir, Jat and Gujar. They possess good quality of land and are to be found in better economic condition. They are skilful and laborious agriculturists. The tribals are mostly located in the forest and hilly areas, evidently possessing poor quality of land. Diversity in the social and economic conditions of tribal and non-tribal communities is also reflected in their agricultural practices. Harijans are equally distributed throughout the District and whatever land they cultivate is scarcely of any good quality. Both, tribals and Harijans, are poor tillers of soil.

The Census of 1951 brings out agriculture as the mainstay of the people of the District. It is only about 19 per cent of the population that derives its livelihood from occupations other than agriculture. The Table below shows the percentage and the number of persons deriving their livelihood from agricultural occupations in each tahsil of the District as revealed by 1951 Census.—

	Tahsils	Total Population	Population Engaged in Agricultural Occupations
1.	Sendhwa	1,27,144	1,11,883 (88.00)
2.	Rajpur	1,16,365	96,291 (82.75)
3.	Barwani	82,833	66,595 (80.52)
4.	Khargone	1,52 760	1,19,451 (78.20)
5.	Bhikangaon	68,770	60,657 (88.20)
6.	Kasrawad	64,281	55,501 (86.34)
7.	Barwaha	86,534	60,143 (69.46)
8.	Maheshwar	60,007	44,397 (73.99)
	Total District	7,58,694	6,15,063 (81.07)

(Figures in brackets are percentages of population engaged in agriculture.)

The high dependence of population on agricultural sources for its livelihood puts this District amongst the predominantly agricultural districts of Madhya Pradesh. Naturally, the bulk of the District income originates from agricultural sources. Thus, the contribution of this sector to the total income of the District amounts to Rs. 15,44.72 lakhs exclusive of income from allied occupations, like animal husbandry, hunting and fishery and forestry.

The findings of Census 1961, though not comparable with those of 1951 Census, give precisely the same picture. Out of the total of 5,15,433 'workers', the number of 'workers' engaged in agriculture as cultivators and as agricultural labourers works out to 4,32,242 or 83.9 per cent. If in this group the 'workers' engaged in allied occupations, such as, fishing, hunting, mining, quarrying, etc., are also counted the percentage further increases to 85.7.

The distinguishing characteristic of the agricultural economy of the District is marked by its being ranked as the foremost producer of jowar, groundnut and cotton amongst all the districts of Madhya Pradesh, contributing 8.7, 21.7 and 23.4 per cent, respectively, of the area utilized for the cultivation of these crops in the State in the year 1963-64. Cotton and groundnut find ready markets in Indore District and Maharashtra State.

LAND RECLAMATION AND UTILIZATION

The District has a peculiar geographical situation. There are various types of soils ranging from heavy soils to absolutely poor soils. The rainfall is very low which makes this area suitable for *Kharif* crops. The irrigation potential for this tract is limited and the low rainfall condition limits double-cropping.

The area of the District in the year 1963-64 according to professional survey was 33,29,530 acres whereas according to village papers, as the Table indicates, it was 23,93,703 acres. The area of the Government Reserved Forests not included in the above figure was 9,20,007 acres. Besides these forests, the area of other forests was 2,91,325 acres. Thus, the total area under forests worked out to 36.6 per cent or more than one-third area of the whole District. In the year 1963-64, the area 'not available for cultivation' (comprising 'land put to non-agricultural uses', and 'barren and unculturable land') was recorded as 2,09,789 acres. The area under this head has tended to decline over the last 15 years. 'Other uncultivated land excluding fallow land' (embracing 'permanent pastures and other grazing lands', 'land under miscellaneous tree crops and groves' and 'culturable waste') amounted to 4,19,078 acres in 1963-64. It shows a reverse trend. The land classed as 'culturable waste' is mostly poor in quality. It is undulated, rocky and in small blocks. The owners of such land are either big cultivators, who maintain it as grazing land for their cattle or poor cultivators who lack the resources to make its profitable use in agriculture. 'Culturable waste' has shown marked decline from 3,41,912 acres

in 1953-54 to 1,36,765 acres in 1963-64. This is largely due to the energetic steps taken by the Government and liberal financial and technical assistance made available to the cultivators for the extension of agriculture on inhospitable land. The cultivators are given technical advice by the staff of Agriculture Department in soil conservation practices. Special emphasis is laid on contour and mass-bunding, green-manuring and proper rotation of crops. The cultivators are given taccavi loans to improve and cultivate such lands, to purchase bullocks, seeds, fertilizers, and implements to make bunds and to dig wells for irrigation under Agriculturists' and Land Improvement Loans Acts. It may be of interest to note that bulk of the waste was reclaimed by bullock power in personal holdings of cultivators. All the land so reclaimed is now yielding rich crops. About 633 acres of alkaline land has been reported to exist in Barwaha Tahsil, and steps are afoot to improve it.

The percentage of fallows is negligible. The main reason of this phenomenon appears to be the cultivation of commercial crops like cotton and groundnut. Cash value commanded by these crops spurs the cultivator to keep his land under these crops to the maximum extent. Very poor soils on hillocks are scarcely left fallow for more than one or two years. It is observed that the land left fallow is either of very poor soil or belongs to cultivators, who fail to prepare their land to sow in time. The agriculturists like to raise legumes or small millets instead of keeping land fallow. The net area sown amounts to 43.8 per cent of the total area.

The details of the land utilization in the District are as under.—

Classification	Area (In Acres)
Area according to village papers	23,93,703
Government Reserved forests	9,20,007
Forests	2,91,325
Barren and unculturable land	98,751
Land put to non-agricultural uses	1,11,038
Culturable waste	1,36,765
Permanent pastures and other grazing lands	2,81,111
Land under miscellaneous tree crops and groves not included in net area sown	1,202
Current fallows	9,021
Other fallows	13,412
Net area sown	14,51,078
Area sown more than once	1,23,920
Total cropped area	15,74,998

Figures when compared tahsil-wise, for the year 1960-61 show that the percentage of net cropped area is highest in Bhikangaon Tahsil, followed by Sendhwa and Khargone Tahsils. The tahsils of Maheshwar, Kasrawad, Barwaha, Bhikangaon, and Khargone are having comparatively more culturable waste-

land than the rest of tahsils. The percentage of culturable wasteland is the smallest in Barwani Tahsil, i. e., about three per cent of the total area.

IRRIGATION

The cropped area receiving irrigation is showing an upward trend. The available statistics for the last 14 years show that the net area irrigated rose from 30,085 acres in 1950-51 to 47,111 acres in 1963-64. Similarly, the proportion of the crops raised by irrigation also increased from 2.5 to 3.2 per cent during the same period. It may, therefore, mean that almost the entire agriculture is dependent upon rains for maturity.

Sources of Irrigation

Canals, tanks and wells are utilized for irrigation purposes. Canals were responsible for only 13.6 per cent of the total irrigation in 1963-64. The statistics show that this form of irrigation was initiated in the year 1950-51 with barely five acres. Now this figure has expanded to 6,388 acres.

Tanks irrigated 2,489 acres in 1963-64. i. e., 5.3 per cent of the total irrigated area. Tank irrigation has remained in a stagnant state over the last 14 years. In 1963-64, 13 reservoirs and 31 tanks (7 tanks with *ayacuts* 100 acres or more and 24 with *ayacuts* less than 100 acres) were reported in the District.

Wells command the largest irrigated area, i. e., 80.7 percent in 1963-64. Well-irrigation has continuously expanded from 23,947 acres (1950-51) to 37,998 acres (1963-64). In 1963-64 there were 14,826 wells in the District which were being used for irrigation. Out of these wells, 159 were Goverment and 14,667 private (7,450 masonry and 7,376 non-masonry). Wells are generally situated on the banks of streams and rivers. As such, they get sufficient water supply on account of seepage from them. Water is usually lifted by means of steel *charas*. Progressive cultivators have replaced them by Persian Wheels and electric or oil engines.

Each well has average irrigation capacity of four acres. The cost of constructing a *katcha* well varies from Rs. 500 to Rs. 1,500 and that of *pucca* well from Rs. 1,500 to Rs. 3,000. Goverment is encouraging well-irrigation by granting loans for digging wells and for installation of Persian Wheels and engines.

Pat-System of Irrigation

There are two types of canals in the District, Private and Government. These canals are locally known as *pats*. Post-monsoon flow available in small nullahs is used for irrigation of *rabi* crops by diversion of water supplies. Two methods are practised for this purpose, (i) a cheap earthen bund which has to be constructed every year, and (ii) masonry diversion weir. Small channels

running at a flat grade take off from one or the other side of the weir (*bund*) diverting the water to *rabi* field. In the sub-mountainous tract of Narmada Valley, where land has good slope, command is easily available within a short distance of the diversion *bund*. A number of such works, some in a state of disrepair and some in actual operation, could be seen in the District. During the late Holker State regime several masonry diversion weirs were constructed to replace the temporary *bunds*. Most of the old diversion weirs have been out-flanked because they used to block practically the entire water way. With the construction of more and more of such works the designs are being continuously improved.

The Water Rates Committee Report makes eloquent mention of the excellent work done in this sphere by Moti Mali. "We were impressed by the work done by Shri Moti Mali of Barwani in Khargone District who explained to us that he undertook contracts for the survey and execution of these works. His judgement to construct works without the use of levelling instruments must be recorded as noteworthy."[1]

Crops Irrigated

Wheat, Sugarcane, condiments and spices and fruits and vegetables receive almost the entire benefit of irrigation with 32,174; 1,551; 7,336 and 3,356 irrigated acres in 1963-64.

Irrigation Development

The planning era has given a fillip to tank construction activity. A medium irrigation project Board was included in the First Five Year Plan of the State. Investigations proved it to be unsound. So it was abandoned and was replaced by three irrigation schemes, *viz.*, Satak Nala Dam near Bamandi (Kasrawad Tahsil), Sengwal Nala Dam, and Jarwai Pick-up Weir, both in Rajpur Tahsil. The composite project is estimated to cast Rs. 99.50 lakhs and would irrigate an area of 17,000 acres in West Nimar District. An amount of Rs. 79.50 lakhs has been spent upto the end of the Second Plan and Rs. 13.9 lakh during the Third Plan.

Satak Tank with designed irrigation potential of 9,500 acres was completed in March, 1966. It submerges an area of 1.57 sq. miles and has maximum storage capacity of 649 M. Cft. Its net-work of canals has a length of 27 miles. Another medium irrigation project also completed in March, 1966, is Gagan Tank. With a canal system of 12.5 miles it is designed to bring 4,064 acres under irrigation. Its maximum storage capacity is 254 M. Cft. Land measuring 0.59 sq. miles comes under its submergence.

Considerable attention has also been paid to the construction of *pucca* pick-up weirs and restoration of old tanks.

1. Report of Madhya Pradesh Water Rates Committee, 1959-61, p. 57.

A list of completed medium and minor irrigation projects is shown in Appendix—A.

The District is drained by the Narmada and a number of its tributaries which empty themselves into it both from the north and the south. It is a perennial river. No other stream of the District retains an appreciable volume of water all the year round. Its banks are high and bed steep. Consequently, it does not lend itself at all for irrigation purposes. As such, lift irrigation offers considerable potential for development. Similarly, the numerous streams and nullahs, found more below the plateau than above it, can be harnessed by impounding their water. Most of them are in the nature of torrents which carry a big volume of water during the rains and are reduced to a mere trickle or dry up as soon as the rains stop. Thus, the waters rushing down the steep land and robbing the soil of its productive powers can be impounded by constructing tanks and pick-up weirs and utilized to help in growing two blades of grass where only one grew before.

Majority of the small sources of water have been harnessed for fruitful use through the ingenuity and industry of the cultivators of the District. Other potential for irrigation is being tapped. Pansemal and Khedia tracts of the District it appears, are rich in ground-water resources and tube-wells could be tried.

Soil Erosion

The problem of soil-erosion is acute in the District. All types of soil-erosion are constantly resulting in soil-losses. Deep gully erosion is found on the banks of the Narmada. Sheet and gully erosion are rampant in other tracts of the District. Due to hilly and undulating nature of the tract, the rain water rapidly acquires velocity and soil is washed away.

In recent years illicit felling of trees for clearing the land for cultivation and breaking up of pasture have further accentuated this tendency. These persons pay little heed to the management of the soil as they have no permanent interest in the land. There is considerable pressure on grazing lands which makes the soil naked and open to erosion. The fertility of such land has depleted considerably.

As regards the problem of combating soil-erosion in cultivated lands, progressive and skilful agriculturists have begun to realise the dangers of decrease in fertility of soil and yield of crops. To arrest this tendency they have started adding organic manures like compost and green-manure, to their fields. Construction of field embankments also serves the same purpose. A judicious system of crop-rotation and improved agricultural practices, amongst other benefits, also conserve soil.

The State Department of Agriculture has taken up a programme of mass-contour bunding. Villages where contour-bunding operations have been undertaken are listed in Appendix.—A.

Forest and Development Departments have schemes of village afforestation, controlled grazing and raising of fuel and fodder. Besides, Forest Department undertakes contour-bunding programme in areas controlled by it.

Soils

The soils of the District are mainly classified as medium black cotton soils containing nearly 50 per cent silt and clay together. Mostly the soils are lighter, open and drained throughout the District. Alluvial type of soil is found on both the sides of the river Narmada and in some patches on the banks of its tributaries, *viz.*, the Kunda, the Beda, the Goi, the Choral and the Koram. This type of soil is comparatively deep, fertile and well-drained. The soils of the rest of the tract are mostly shallow and poor in fertility. A large portion of Barwani, Sendhwa, Khargone, Rajpur and Bhikangaon tahsils consists of *khadri* and *bardi* (shallow and rocky) soils. The medium type of soils are suitable for such crops as cotton, jowar, groundnut, tur, moong in *kharif* and wheat and gram in *rabi*. The *khardi* and *bardi* types of soils are mostly sown during the rains with small millets and pulses. In some cases, groundnut and cotton crops are also grown in patches.

Principal Crops

There are two seasons in the agricultural year of the District—the *sialu* or *kharif*, extending from the end of May when ploughing or *bakhering* commences to October or middle of November when most of *kharif* crops are harvested; and the *unhalu* or *rabi* extending from the month of October to April.

Khargone District is mostly a *kharif* growing tract. Dependence upon rainfall favours the growing of *kharif* crops. The area under *rabi* crops without irrigation depends upon the late rains in the month of October. Crops like sugarcane, summer vegetables and wheat are taken with irrigation.

All the agricultural operations of the cultivator are guided by the calendar forecast and the influence of certain astrological considerations. Some of the sayings which are popular and on which reliance is placed are as under[1].—

Krittika bhiji na kakra, Rohini tapyo na gham.

Mrigashira baja na bayaro, so kanth, kyun bandho tam tham.

"If no rain falls during the Krittika (*nakshatra*) sufficient to wet the stones (*kakra*) and it is not intensely hot under Rohini and does not blow hard under Mrigashira, why then, my husband, should you build (yourself) a shelter."

In the absence of these signs the rains are sure to fail.

Sawan badi ekadas tin nakshatra, hoe Krittika hoe to karkase, Rohini hoe sukal, Jo awe Mrigashira to har har to kal.

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1. Indore State Gazetteer, 1931, pp. 112-113.

"The 11th day of the dark half of Sawan may fall under these *nakshatras*. If under Krittika it should rain, but no more than just sufficient to moisten the soil. If it falls under Rohini the season will be good, but if under Mrigashira famine will surely follow."

Ashadhi punam dina gham badal dhan bij Kothar Khole najaka baki rakho bij.

"If on the day of the full moon of Asarh dense clouds appear, then open your granary and sell all the grain but that required for seed."

Good rain is assured in such a case.

Chitradi chul under mul
Hatva gache under nache

"Rain under the Chitra *nakshtra* and the rats and mice die, rain under Hasta and the rats and mice dance."

Rain falling in the first asterism presages a good season when a plentiful downpour will drown the young rats, but if it comes in Hasta the season will be bad and the rats will play havoc with the crops.

Varshe aslekha to umi maslega.

"If it rains under the Aslekha *nakshtra* wheat umi (ears of wheat) will be produced in abundance."

Magha ka barsana ma ka parsana.

"Rain under the Magha *nakshtra* is like a meal served by a mother (to her son)."

The rain in this case is of the fullest and most advantageous kind.

On the *Akhatij*, the third day of the bright fortnight of the month of *Vaisakh*, agricultural operations are started by almost every cultivator. The land is generally ploughed in December after the *kharif* crops have been harvested while it is still moist and easily worked. After the ploughing the soil is left to bake in the sun till the rains commence on account of which the clods become friable and can be broken up by harrow (*bakhar*). In the poor and hilly areas the operations are not commenced until sufficient rain has fallen to thoroughly moisten the ground.

Sowing of *kharif* is usually done under the *Ardra nakshtra* after one or two showers of rains with the *tiphan*. Farmer before commencing the sowing operations keeps in mind the zodical asterism calculated by the *parsai*, the village priest, and astrologer. When the sowing of the *kharif* crop is completed the preparation of the fields reserved for *rabi* crops is started. The ploughing operation is carried out when there is a break in rains. The horrowing during this

time eradicates the weeds and opens up the soil for absorbing the moisture. In the month of *Ashvin* or *Kartik* it is again harrowed and then sown with *rabi* crops. Wheat is generally sown with *unhalu nai* under the *Swati Nakshtra* and gram in *Hasta*.

Rabi crops require no weeding operation but in case of *kharif* crops, when the seedings are about eight inches in height the weeding harrow or *dora* is passed down the rows of young plants to remove weeds. Two weeds later the process is repeated and about a week after this, if the soil is workable the plants are thinned out for crops like jowar, cotton, etc. This thinning process is called *galni*. A fortnight after the thinning process weeding is done again by hand.

The reaping operations consist of either cutting the crop with a sickle—the process locally termed as *dhalni*, or is pulled out by the roots in case of gram. It is then bound in sheaves and carried to the threshing floor called the *khala* and stored until dry. The reaping operations are then followed by threshing and winnowing. The ground is made hard, smooth and clean. To prevent its becoming dusty, a coating of cow-dung is applied. An upright post about six feet high known as *med* is fixed in the centre. The *khala* is usually fenced by thorns and stalks. The heads of corn are then strewn over the *khala* round the *med*. Three to five bullocks yoked together are connected by a rope with the post and are driven over the years of corn. This process is known *dawan pherna*. The process of winnowing is locally termed as *khalna*. The trodden out grains are collected into a heap of a particular shape known as *ras*. The *ras* is then worshipped, after which it is winnowed by throwing the trodden out grain from a certain height which is acquired by standing on a stool of three feet height known as *tiwaya*. Of late, winnowing machines have gradually come into use, but only by a few cultivators.

Cotton

Cotton is one of the most important crops of the District and occupies almost the same place in its coverage of area as jowar. The climatic conditions of the District are admirably suited to the cultivation of cotton. Its cultivation is steadily increasing. The lighter soils of the District having porous sub-strata are better suited for its cultivation. Absence of low temperature ensures long growing period. Cotton is mostly grown as rain-fed, very little area being raised as irrigated crop. Major cotton area is under American cotton. The varieties of cotton which are generally sown are Maljiri, Nerbada A-51-9 and Buri 0394.

The area under cotton in the year 1950-51 was 2,99,935 acres which increased to 4,26,315 acres in 1955-56. But in the year 1963-64 it reached its record coverage of 4,41,478 acres. The increase in the area, obviously brought the increase in out-turn. From 55.4 thousand bales in the year 1950-51 the production increased to 101.7 thousand bales in 1955-56, followed by further

increase in the year 1956-57 bringing the total production to 228.3 thousand bales. This was the highest record of production established during the years 1950-51 to 1963-64. In subsequent years production has not been commensurate with the acreage on account of poor yield of the crop and in the year 1963-64, though the acreage was highest on record, production amounted to 151.5 thousand bales.

The fields are prepared after the harvest of the previous crop. Deep ploughing is done and it is followed by three-four *bakharings*. All the stubbles are picked up and burnt and the field is kept quite clear for sowing cotton.

The sowing of cotton is done with the commencement of monsoon, either in the third week of June or first week of July depending upon the arrival of monsoon. The sowing is done by drilling cotton seed by local *duffan* in rows 15 inches to 18 inches apart. Six to eight kg. of seed is sufficient for sowing one acre. A new improvement has been effected in the method of sowing, known as *chaufuli* method, which has been found to be more effective in getting higher yields. In this method, equal spacing from row to row and from plant to plant is maintained. Before sowing, the seed is treated with Agrosan G.N. and rubbed with dung and soil-paste.

For obtaining good cotton crop 15-18 cartloads of F.Y.M. and 30-40 kg. nitrogen and 20 kg. phosphate per hectare are applied to the cotton crop. One-half to two-thirds nitrogen and full dose of phosphate are given at the time of sowing and the remaining nitrogen at a later stage when there is moisture. Some of the cultivators do not apply any fertilizer, except some F.Y.M. However, the great utility of the application of fertilizers is being impressed upon the cultivators and this has, in fact, become an important aspect of cotton improvement programme. While only 500 acres received fertilizers in 1950-51 the year 1963-64 recorded 40,000 such acres. In fertilizer-treated areas additional production of atleast one maund of seed-cotton per acre has been achieved.

Inter-culture and weeding are done to keep the crop free of weeds. To conserve moisture in the soil four to five *dauras* are given to the soil.

Plant-protection measures are adopted to save the crop from the damage done by diseases, insects and posts which are quite large in number. However, it has been noticed that few cultivators adopt plant protection measures in full.

The picking of cotton starts in the last week of November. Generally, three-four pickings of cotton are taken till December when the crop is over. The average yield of the District is generally 400 lbs. per acre but yields upto 2,000 lbs. per acre are not uncommon. The average yield of cotton crop is increasing with the special efforts of the Agriculture Department. Application of fertilizers, adoption of plant-protection measures and seed-treatment are the

important intensive cultivation practices that are being demonstrated for cotton development.

Jowar

Jowar is the staple food crop of the District. Like cotton the area under jowar is also increasing gradually. In the year 1950-51 the total coverage of area by this crop was 2,90,540 acres which increased to 435,666 acres in 1960-61. In the year 1963-64, the area under this crop stood at 4,29,551 acres. For the cultivation of this crop field is harrowed twice, first lengthwise and then crosswise before the rains set in. It is then allowed to weather in the sun, and is cleared of weeds. After one or two good showers the jowar is sown as a pure crop with the help of seed drill, *tiphan*. When the plants come to the height of eight inches the weeding harrow, i.e., *dora* is passed down between the rows of plants to remove weeds and admit moisture to the roots. The process is again repeated after about a fortnight. This operation is followed by the process of thinning out by which the plants are set apart at a distance of 8 to 12 inches. The thinning out process is locally termed as *galni*. After *galni* the field is again weeded and the *dora* is again passed over the fields twice. The reaping is generally done in the month of *Margasirsh* (November). After reaping the grain is built up into conical shocks known as *oga*. After the ears have dried out in the threshing floor lopping is done generally by women sitting in a circle. In some of the areas both the processes are conducted at one place. The jowar field is divided into *ols* of six furrows. A man then proceeds to cut the crop making heaps of the plants called *koli* placed at right angles to his path. This man is followed by two women, the *khudne walis*, cutting the heads off the stalks and storing them in the basket which they carry. These two women are followed by another woman who cuts the heads off the plants which might have been left over by the two women going ahead. This woman in local term is known as *sarwawali*. The set of these four workers is locally known as *joda*. All the heads so collected are heaped together for further operation.

The production of jowar has kept pace with the increase in the area, though unlike acreage, production is marked by considerable year to year fluctuations. The year 1956-57 witnessed the record out-turn of 134.9 thousand tons. The favourable climatic conditions appear to be responsible for this bumper harvest. Other crops also had bumper yield during this year. The produce of the crop with 91.0 thousand tons in the year 1963-64 was not encouraging.

Bajra

Bajra though, an inferior grain, occupies a fairly good area. Being a finer grain than jowar it requires good tillage. The field before sowing is harrowed twice to form good mulch and to discard the weeds. The out-turn of this crop is better in good black soil than in shallow soil. It is harvested in October and November. The area and yield of this crop are fluctuating. However,

they reflect a decreasing trend. It appears that bajra is losing ground to wheat. Till 1955-56 acreage under bajra was greater than that under wheat. But from 1956-57, wheat has stolen a march over bajra. The year 1953-54 recorded the highest coverage when 1,08,894 acres were sown with the crop. The year 1950-51 covered 84,251 acres and the year 1963-64 covered 65,105 acres. The yield as already stated is also fluctuating and the highest yield since 1950-51 was 13.5 thousand tons in 1956-57. In 1963-64, the crop gave an out-turn of 9.8 thousand tons.

Maize

Maize is one of the commonest crops sown on double-cropped fields. The second crop is either peas or gram or poppy if the tract is suitable. For the cultivation of maize the field is prepared after the *rabi* crop is harvested and the sowing is done in the month of *Ashadha* after one or two showers. For weeding purposes *dora* or *kolpa* is passed after 9 or 10 days. This process is again repeated followed by thinning out the plants to form rows 1½ to 2 feet apart. Weeding with hand is also carried out. When the crop is ripe the heads are cut from the stalk and kept for drying. The grain of maize is either taken out by hand by rubbing or sometimes the corn-sheller is used. This crop covered 45,504 acres in 1950-51 and increased to 52,549 acres in 1953-54, and afterwards the acreage has little varied. The year 1958-59 yielded the record production of 23.5 thousand tons. The year 1963-64 also faired equally good with 23.4 thousand tons.

Wheat

As the agricultural statistics reveal the area commanded by wheat is comparatively small but it is gradually gaining favour of the cultivators. Where irrigation facilities are available wheat is raised as a second crop after urd and moong have been harvested. The area under wheat in the year 1950-51 was 74,906 acres which increased to 95,043 acres in 1956-57 and then stood at 86,522 acres in 1963-64. In comparison to the increase in area the yield of the crop increased considerably which appears to be due to higher yield rate obtained as a result of better cultivation practices. The out-turn during the three years mentioned above was recorded as 8.7; 20.3 and 25.3 thousand tons, respectively.

Groundnut

Next to cotton, groundnut is the most important commercial crop of the District. The commercial value of groundnut has of late increased, resulting in an upward trend in groundnut area and accrual of larger incomes to cultivators. Groundnut is grown as a dry crop. The preparation of the field for its cultivation starts in March and April. At this time the fields are ploughed and left till *Akhatij* when they are again harrowed at least twice. The sowing is done in *Ashadh*, i.e., June-July with *shialu nai*. After sowing the harrow or *bakhar* is passed to cover up the seed. The seedlings appear in eight to ten

days time. About a month later *dora* or *kolpa* is passed between the seedlings. Weeding is also done twice at intervals of a fortnight. In the month of *Kanwar* (September-October) two waterings are given. In the month of *Kartik* (October-November) the crop is ready. The nuts are then rooted out with plough and gathered. The gathering process is locally termed as *binana*.

Previously, only one variety of groundnut known as *desi* was grown. After sometime another variety known as Big Japan (locally known as Sholapuri) was introduced and its cultivation spread rapidly. This variety gave a higher percentage of oil. It was followed by a new variety known as the Spanish peanut also termed as *uptya*. It was introduced by the Agriculture Department of the erstwhile Holkar State. It also spread rapidly as it ripens quickly and does not require much labour in harvesting. The plants of this variety could be pulled out by hand. It also gives a higher percentage of oil. Now the improved varieties with the cultivators are A.K. 12-24 and TMV-2. Under Oil-seeds Package Programme treatment of this crop with superphosphate in being encouraged. The treated area gives much higher yield than the untreated one.

Coverage of area by groundnut is increasing gradually. In the year 1950-51, 1,34,663 acres were under this crop which gradually came to 2,20,043 acres in 1956-57. The following years witnessed further expansion of groundnut areas. Year 1958-59 secured the record coverage of 2,87,999 acres. There was, however, some decline in the area in the succeeding year. As a consequence of increase in area and also as a result of increasing attention of the cultivators towards its cultivation, the yield has increased considerably. In 1950-51 the yield of groundnut was 33.0 thousand tons which in the following year dropped abruptly to 11.7 thousand tons. But it maintained its progress in subsequent years. Highest yield was established in the year 1958-59 when it reached 99.0 thousand tons.

Now, the agriculturists have started raising improved varieties of crops. Even the so-called backward agricultural communities like Advasis and Harijans are taking to cultivation of cash crops like cotton and groundnut. Good agri-culturists have started growing sugarcane, banana, papaya and other fruit trees. They grow two or three crops under irrigation and use fertilizers and compost to improve the fertility of the soil and get good returns.

Fruits and Vegetables

These crops constitute an important group of crops, on account of their significant place in nutrition. Together, they commanded only 4,657 acres in 1963-64. Fruits were grown on 1,877 acres and the vegetables comprised the rest. In the same year, papaya was responsible for 247 acres, banana for 553 acres and mango for 901 acres.

Papaya grown in West Nimar and known as Barwani papaya is a well-reputed fruit of the District and deserves special note. It is beleived to have

originated in Barwani in the year 1930 in the State Gardens of former Barwani State. Barwani (yellow or orange) is the most important type grown all over West Nimar. Barwani Red Papaya is gaining prominance all over the country. It has got its own distinctive flavour and taste and is very delicious amongst the varities of papaya grown in the country.

In West Nimar, it is widely grown in almost all Blocks. It is grown intensively in Barwani, Anjar, Rajpur and Thikari Blocks. The Barwani varieties of papaya found common in private orchards are really different types with large variation in fruit size, colour, quality, yield, etc. It thrives well in very loose, friable and well-drinned soils. Sandy-loam soil such as in Barwani and well-draned loam soil as in Anjar offer good scope for the cultivation of papaya.

The papaya is suited to tropical climate and grows well in the regions of West Nimar, where the summer temperature ranges between 100° to 110° F and winter temperature does not frequently go below 40° F.

The papaya is grown by seed. The seeds are extracted from fruits of heavy-bearing, good quality trees and dried after mixing with wood ash. The seeds are sown in nursery-beds from June to October. The seedlings are transplanted when they are one foot high and have developed from four to five leaves. The seedlings with ball of earth are transplanted during the monsoon months. They establish quickly and grow vigorously. The site selected for planting is well-ploughed up in summer and manured with 50 to 100 cart loads of good, old farm-yard-manure per acre. Pits 1½ feet × 1½ feet × 1½ feet are dug with a distance of 6 to 8 feet. About 800 pits are dug in an acre. In Barwani the pits are dug 10 feet apart, since the plantations are kept for two years. Two to three seedlings are planted in each pit. When the seedlings start flowering, the female trees are located and rest of the trees are cut and removed. Papayas are also raised by directly sowing the seeds in the pits.

The furrow system of irrigation is practised in West Nimar. Normally, the land under papaya cultivation is irrigated at weekly intervals after the monsoon from October to March. In summer the interval is reduced to four to five days.

The papaya is a quick grower and bears heavily. It needs abundant manuring. In Barwani F. Y. M. and sheep-manure are commonly used as manures for papaya plantation. Application of superphosphate at two ounces and oilcake at half kg. per plant has been found to improve the fruit quality.

The papaya is a shallow-rooted plant, and does not penetrate more than two feet deep into the soil. Frequent light harrowing (*bakharing*) of the orchard at intervals of a fortnight is practised. Flowers emerge about five months after transplanting of the seedlings. Fruit-setting commences a

fortnight after flowering, and the fruit takes about four months to reach full maturity. The fruits start ripening from September and harvest continues till April. During the monsoon season (July to September) very few fruits mature in Barwani. The ripe fruits are available all the year round. The peak season is from October to February. On an average, a tree yields 25 to 50 fruits, each fruit weighing about 1 kg. Papaya-growing is thus very profitable as there is an assured market for fruit. It is very remunerative in West Nimar. There are growers who have grown papaya successfully for decades and secured incomes ranging between Rs. 4,000 and Rs. 5,000 per acre.

A virus disease called the mosaic disease attacks the papaya plant. It is a very dreadful disease in papaya. The disease spreads fast to other trees through insect, wind and irrigation. It is incurable. This is the greatest limiting factor in papaya cultivation.

Intensive Cultivation of Cotton, Groundnut and Jowar

The programme of 'Intensive Cultivation of Cotton, Groundnut and Jowar' has been launched in the District from the *kharif* season of 1963. These crops together constitute the backbone of the agricultural economy of the District. They are all *kharif* crops. Conditions of low rainfall and limited irrigation potential do not permit double-cropping on a big scale and raising of *rabi* crops. Consequently, the only alternative for stepping up agricultural production is to develop the principal crops by intensive cultivation. This is the rationale behind this Programme. The Programme has been divided into following main item.—

1. Large-scale demonstration of improved methods.
2. Easy and timely supply of fertilizers alongwith the spread of proper know-how in the technique of their utilization.
3. Adequate supply of improved seeds alongwith sufficient provision of loan.
4. Popularising of the improved methods of cultivation in dry farming areas.
5. Contour-bunding and field-bunding programme as the main need in dry farming.
6. Plant-protection measures.

It was not possible for the present strength of 120 Village Level Workers to carry out this Programme. Hence, it was decided to provide 120 additional Village Level Workers in the form of Demonstrator Kamdars. Similarly, 12 additional Agriculture Extension Officers have also been provided. Initially, large-scale demonstrations showing the composite items of intensive cultivation were considered necessary. So, 1,200 demonstration plots were laid out and the next phase was to induce maximum number of cultivators to visit these plots. It is estimated that about 10,000 cultivators visited these plots in the first season.

The composite demonstrations have shown that the yield of cotton could be raised by a minimum of two maunds per acre with an additional expenditure of Rs. 20. The practical experience of cultivators following these practices justifies this increase.

Agricultural Implements

The main implements used by agriculturists in the District are *hal* (plough), *bakhar* (harrow), *tiphan*, (seed-drill), *darata* (sickle), *kolpa, jod kolpa* or *dora* (blade hoe) and *khurpi* (single-handed hoe). Statistics of agricultural implements and machinery as enumerated in the Livestock Censuses of 1951, 1956 and 1961 can be seen in Appendix.—A.

The wooden implements are slowly being replaced by iron implements. The agriculturists have started using soil-turning iron ploughs, improved harrows and cultivators. The Agriculture Department has also introduced improved implements and arranged practical demonstrations on cultivators fields. The following are the important local and improved implements used for different operations.—

Name of Operation	Implement Used	
	Local	Improved
1. Ploughing	Wooden plough	Soil-turning ploughs made of iron
2. *Bakharing*	Blade harrow	Cultivator and harrow
3. Sowing	Wooden *tiphan*	Hand dibbler and bullock-driven seed-drills
4. Interculturing	*Nari* plough, *Kolpa*, *dora* & *phawara*	Indore ridger and Akola hoe
5. Harvesting	Sickles	Improved sickles
6. Winnowing	..	Hoshangabad & Naini winnowers
7. Levelling	*Patela*	Scrapers
8. Threshing	Bullocks, with sticks or hand	Paddy thresher, mechanical thresher with blades
9. Irrigation	Buckets	Persian wheels, oil and electric engine-pumps

About 80 per cent of the cultivators depend upon traditional implements. However, as has already been stated, gradually modern equipment is coming into vogue. Amongst these the winnowing machines are the favourite. With these the Persian wheels electric and diesel pumps are also becoming popular with the cultivators. But finance is a big limiting factor. The tendency to acquire modern machines is slow, but it is clearly discernible. To cite, the District in 1951 had just 181 diesel-pumps, the number of which in 1961 increased

to 1,871. Similarly, the iron ploughs in 1961 increased to 7,460 from 3,271 in 1951. During the decade, tractors increased from 5 to 27. Electric pumps which were non-existent in 1951, also appeared and were 39 in number in 1961.

Seeds

As regards variety of jowar crop, Ujjain 8 and a local improved variety Agyapel are distributed.

In case of groundnut crop previously small *desi* variety was grown but due to its lower yield it was replaced by a new variety, i.e., Small Japan (locally known as Chandore) which was high yielder compared to small *desi* variety of groundnut. Gradually the Chandore variety was replaced by an improved variety A. K.-12-24 which is suitable for this District giving still higher yields. The trials conducted for three years at the Khandwa Farm have established the superiority of T.M.V.-2 over all the existing varieties of groundnut grown in the District. It is stated to give an additional cash return of Rs. 400 per hectare over A. K.-12-24. It has, therefore, been taken up for multiplication at the Agricultural Farms of West Nimar region.

In West Nimar, local Nimari cotton was being cultivated. In 1908, some cultures by crossing Bani Indicum with Comilla (Cernuum) were maintained. Later on, in 1926, N.R.-6 (Northern Roseum) was evolved. It was a selection from local Jadi mixture with superior ginning percentage. In 1943, in Jalgaon, Jarilla was crossed with N.R.-5 and a variety known as Virnar (197-3) was evolved and distributed. The regular research work for this tract was started at Dhamnod in 1944 and was later on transferred to Khargone under the Nimar Cotton Improvement Scheme sanctioned by the Indian Central Cotton Committee. This Scheme worked for 15 years at Khargone.

By crossing Jarilla with Malvi-9, a strain known as Maljari (D-48-147) was evolved and its distribution was started in West Nimar and in other regions of the State. Maljari yields 15 to 20 per cent more than Virnar, depending upon the season. Though the ginning percentage of Maljari is slightly lower the lint per acre is more and so fetches a higher cash return per acre. Its multiplication was taken up under a separate scheme of the Indian Central Cotton Committee. The work of further selection resulted in a new strain, K-59-940, which is ready for release.

As regards improvement of American cotton, the work for this tract was carried out at Amraoti and Nagpur. This was necessary to meet the requirements of long staple cotton. Attempts made to introduce exotic cotton could not succeed because of low yields and low ginning percentage of the exotics in Indian conditions as compared to local Jadi. Later, American type Buri was introduced which, although late-maturing, flourished well. Its cultivation commenced from 1931 over an initial area of about 50,000 acres. Later, selections for improving quality and yield resulted in two strains, Buri-103 and 107.

In 1939, Botanical Research Scheme resulted in isolation of 0382, 0394 and 0386 and these were given further trials from 1948-52 onwards and Buri-0396 was found to be superior and was recommended for cultivation in Nimar. The efforts were continued to isolate strains better than 0396 at Khargone. Selection from 0382 resulted in the variety A. 51-9, a far superior variety to 0394 (control) in ginning percentage, yield of *kapas* and mean halo length.

In order that cotton varieties of other tracts may not infiltrate to spoil the cotton of this tract, the M.P. Cotton Control Act, 1954, has been enforced in Nimar area. This Act prohibits the cultivation of varieties of cotton other than Narmada A. 51-9 and Maljari.

After the introduction of these two varieties the yield of cotton has shown increase by 10 per cent.

It may not be out of place to refer to other research work that is being carried out for cotton improvement. Agronomic research work was started at Khargone in 1956-57. To have information on all aspects of cotton cultivation, a Co-ordinate Agronomical Trial Scheme was initiated in 1962 at Khargone.

As regards supply of seed, the farmer obtains improved seeds from the Department of Agriculture. The foundation seed is multiplied at Government farms. Then the Development Blocks supply the same to 'A' class seed-growers and then to 'B' class seed-growers. Sometimes, subsidy is also provided to induce the farmers to use improved seeds.

Rotation of Crops

The three-year rotation, i.e., groundnut, cotton and jowar is commonly followed in the District. Groundnut crop has the quality of enriching the soil; therefore, the yield of the crop raised after groundnut increases considerably. In some cases cotton is taken year after year with heavy manuring and summer cultivation.

Manures and Fertilizers

Attempts are being made to induce every cultivator to maintain the fertility of his land under a planned scheme by the application of both inorganic and organic manures including oil-cakes. With a view to achieving this end demonstration trials are conducted in the fields of cultivators and on Government farms. At the same time cultivators are provided with short-term loans for the purchase of fertilizers and manures. Cash-crops like sugarcane, cotton, groundnut, wheat, fruits and vegetables are mostly fertilized. It may be of interest to note that fertilizers were introduced in the District in the year 1951 only.

Agricultural Diseases and Pests

Agricultural produce to the extent of at least 10 per cent is lost every year on account of various diseases and pests that afflict the crops. Sometimes the

entire crop of a field is known to have been wiped out. Such epidemics have been experienced in the past on wheat and papaya crops of the District.

The diseases and pests of major crops grown in the District are given in Appendix—B.

Some traditional remedies are current for warding off the pests and diseases.—

(i) Seeds are treated with salt and copper solution before sowing.

(ii) Wooden ash is sprayed on chilly, red pumpkin, lowki and such other crops.

(iii) *Hing* and *gur* solution is applied against attack of white ants on sugarcane and garden crops.

The Central and State Governments have set up plant-protection organization at various places. A unit has also been stationed at Khargone since 1955-56 with necessary equipment, fungicides, insecticides and covers the whole of the District. The control methods are advocated and demonstrated by the Department of Agriculture. The plant-protection service has become popular and the response from the cultivators is encouraging.

During the year 1960-61 locust invaded this District, which was successfully fought with the help of Plant Protection Organisation. In the first week of August, 1962, there was an attack of caterpillars, i.e., Army worms on grasses, and crops like paddy, maize, jowar and pulses. The Plant Protection Organisation come to the rescue of the farming community.

Co-operative Farming

Efforts have been made to apply the principle of co-operation to farming. As a result five joint farming societies were organised in pilot project areas at Nandra Patharad, Mogawan, Karondiya and Sonakhedi, in the year 1961-62. All land owned by a member in the area of the society was pooled for five years. This came to 1,030 acres. Besides the share capital contributed by individual members, Government extended financial help in the form of share capital contribution, medium-term loan, godown loan and subsidy and managerial subsidy and contribution in kind. It was laid down that each society should have at least 100 acres of its cultivated land under irrigation and switch over to the use of improved agricultural implements as well as improved farming practices within a span of five years.

In 1963-64, five more joint farming societies were set up in the District to which financial and other assistance as noted in the foregoing paragraph was also extended. The land pooled by these societies came to 938 acres.

In areas outside the pilot projects collective farming societies have been started. In 1962-63, there were three such societies which were functioning at Pitnagar, Bhamori and Segaon. Two societies were added during the subsequent year.

Better farming co-operative societies have also come into existence since the year 1958-59. They undertake the supply of essential agricultural inputs, *viz.*, seeds, fertilizers, implements, insecticides, pesticides, etc., to their members. Their number increased to 13 during the period of three years. Village service co-operative societies numbering 219 were also rendering useful service to the farmers of the District in 1962-63.

Activities of the Agriculture Department

The main activities of the Agriculture Department concern the dissemination of scientific knowledge amongst the cultivators for the improvement of agriculture.

Besides the normal staff, the following staff of various sections is provided for the technical help and guidance in their respective subjects in the District : (1) Cotton Extension, (2) Plant Protection, (3) Compost Development, (4) Horticulture Development, (5) Sugarcane Development, (6) Soil Conservation, (7) Agricultural Engineering, (8) Minor Irrigation, (9) Cotton Development, and (10) Oilseed Development.

There are two Horticulture Nurseries one each at Khargone and Barwani. Besides supplying seeds and seedlings of vegetables and fruit plants, necessary guidance is also given in raising vegetables and planting and maintaining of fruit gardens. There is a Gram Sewak Training Centre at Satrati in Kasrawad Tahsil since the year 1953. The Institute prepares the staff for serving in the Development Blocks as Village Level Workers. It also undertakes extension work in the nearby villages.

There are 13 Development Blocks each having one Agricultural Extension Officer to help and guide the cultivators in adopting improved techniques of agriculture. In each of the Blocks, 10 demonstration centres and at least two model farms are established on the cultivators, holdings where the farmers from neighbouring villages may learn by seeing the practical demonstrations.

Regional Research Station, Khargone, was established in 1945. It is situated to the east of Khargone town on Khargone-Khandwa road. The total area of the Farm is about 99 acres out of which nearly 84 acres are under cultivation. In the beginning the area was only 55 acres and in 1953-54, additional area was taken over There is a rivulet about a mile away. Work of both research and seed multiplication nature is carried out on the Farm. The season of cropping is *kharif* and the important crops are jowar, cotton, groundnut, tur, etc. The only irrigated area on the Farm belongs to the nursery.

The Farm receives about 25 inches of rainfall. The soils of the Farm, in general, are dark coloured with heavy texture. The surface colour is dark grey-brown and the surface texture is clay-loam to clay having 30-40 per cent clay. Presence of carbonates is a common feature and carbonates are usually present throughout the depth.

The Farm has produced some useful results in the sphere of evolving improved varieties of crops, *viz.*, moong (Khargone-1), tur (Khargone-2), urd (Khargone-3) and cotton (Maljari and A-51-9).

The Farm produces and supplies the following varieties of seeds, groundnut, A.K.-12-24; cotton, Maljari, A-51-9; wheat, HY-65 and N.P. 710; jowar, Ujjain-8 and Agypel; maize, Hybrid and Local; tur, Ti; moong, Khargone; urd, Black; and gram, Ujjain-21. The Government have also established two seed multiplication farms at Bajatia Khurd (Tahsil Barwani) and Bhikangaon during the Second Plan period. The former was started in 1962 and covers 100 acres. The latter was set up in 1960-61 and extends over an area of 102 acres. Another seed multiplication farm was added at Barwani in 1962-63 with an area of 52 acres.

Agricultural exhibitions and demonstrations are organised in the different fairs and farms of the District for educating and giving practical demonstrations to the villagers and cultivators.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

With 10.5 lakh heads of livestock (1963-64), of West Nimar District accounts for three per cent of the total livestock population of the State and occupies ninth place amongst the districts. Out of this, a bare 42 thousand were enumerated in urban areas. As regards distribution by different types of livestock, 6.1 lakh cattle from the largest group. They are followed by goats whose number is 2.4 lakhs and then by buffaloes numbering 1.8 lakhs. Other animals are relatively unimportant numerically, there being only 9,181 sheep, 4,133 horses and ponies, 3,980 donkeys and 2,351 pigs.

The distribution of cattle and buffaloes according to age, sex and work will be interesting to note.—

	Cattle	*Buffaloes*
I Males		
A. Over 3 years		
(1) Breeding	797	2,063
(2) Working	2,25,911	1,077
(3) Others	40,559	261
Total	2,67,267	3,401

		Cattle	Buffaloes
II Females			
A Over three years			
(1) In milk		1,01,183	57,876
(2) Dry and not calved		48,573	26,657
(3) Working		19,615	12,313
(4) Others		6,749	4,001
	Total	1,76,120	1,00,847
III Young stock		1,65,799	75,969
IV Grand total		609,186	180,217

A comparison of livestock data over the last four censuses makes interesting revelations. There was a decline in cattle, buffalo, goat and total livestock numbers in 1951 over those of 1946. Sheep, however, showed increase of 78 per cent. The next quinquennium registered improvement in cattle, buffaloes, sheep and goats, the overall increase being ten per cent. The latest Census (1961) recorded further improvement of 11 per cent in total livestock, goats being responsible for the largest increase, i.e., of 18 per cent. Cattle increased by 12 per cent and buffaloes by 9 per cent. Sheep declined by 27 per cent.

Nimari is the predominant breed of the cattle which is also a well-known breed of India. This breed is the result of cross-breeding between the Gir cattle of Rajasthan and Khillaris of the regions south of the Narmada. Valley of the Narmada is the home of this breed. These cattle are bred by professional semi-nomadic breeders known as Bharwads and Ahirs in the Nimari tract. Buffaloes are maintained in the District mainly for milk and ghee production. There is no specific breed of buffaloes but milk animals are generally imported from Gujarat and Malwa tract. In the past Barwaha and Anjad were well-known for production of good quality ghee. But large-scale export of cotton-seed for the manufacture of vegetable oil has adversely affected this industry.

The total number of ploughs in the District according to Census 1961, is 1,11,598 as against 97,394 in last Census. The number of bulls, bullocks, male buffaloes over 3 years of age used for work per 100 plough works out to 239, i.e., excess of 39 animals per 100 ploughs while it was 230 in last Census. It may be seen that there is no dearth of plough animals as far as numbers are concerned.

It may also be interesting to note the ratio of milch-cows and buffaloes, i.e., cows and cow-buffaloes over three years kept for breeding and milk production per 1,000 souls of human population. The figures worked out to 166 for milch-cows and 262 for both. The corresponding ratios in the previous Census, i.e., 1956 were 211 and 331. The larger figures at this Census are partly due to the adoption of 1951 human census population data.

The principal sources of food for the cattle are forest, grass and chaff of jowar. *Bhusa* derived from wheat, tur, groundnut, bajra and *moth* crops is used in some places as cattle feed. *Anjan* leaves are also fed to the cattle, particularly during summer. Concentrates consisting of urd and tur *churi*, groundnut oilcake and cotton-seed are fed only to plough bullocks and milch-buffaloes. Professional cattle breeders give concentrates to their animals so that the animals and their progeny may be strong and they may fetch better prices.

Pastures, culturable wastelands and forest areas open for grazing provide grazing facilities to the cattle. Livestock also graze in the fields after the crops have been harvested. Grazing facilities provided by the Forest Department are by issue of passes at moderate rates. Young stock below one year is allowed free. But except in forests, pasture lands are not properly conserved, protected or regulated. In village community lands, grazing is free to the extent laid down in the village administration papers but grazing dues are levied at moderate rates for extra village grazing. The green grass and fodder are available in rainy season and to some extent in winter also in the plains. Dry fodder or grass are fed in the rest of the season. Wheat *bhusa* is imported from Malwa to meet the summer shortage of fodder.

Fodder crops are grown on a very small scale. Average area under fodder crops in the District worked out to 2,528 acres in the quinquennium ending 1954-55 which came to a bare 0.2 per cent of the average total cropped area and gave only 4 acres to per 1,000 bovine population. The position deteriorated in the next 5 years when at the quinquennium ending with 1960-61 the area under fodder crops fell to 1,850 acres and percentage to 0.1 and two acres were available for each 1,000 bovine population.

Culturable waste, permanent pastures and forest areas open to grazing which provide grazing facilities to the cattle, together averaged 15.81 lakh acres in the quinquennium ending 1960-61. This was 47.5 per cent of the total District area. It worked out to 2.0 and 1.5 acres per head of bovine and livestock, respectively, as against the corresponding respective State figures of 1.6 and 1.3.

Jowar-Cotton Zone of Madhya Pradesh which comprises West Nimar District also, is most fortunately placed as regards supply of cattle feed as is shown below.—

Feed Available per Cattle Unit Per Day	Jowar-Cotton Zone	State Average
I Roughage		
(a) Grazing	6.5	3.9
(b) Agricultural-byeproducts	3.7	2.9
Total	10.2	6.8
II Concentrates (in ozs.)	4.56	2.62
Average weight of cattle (in lbs.)	800	..

The establishment of oil, pulse, wheat-flour and rice-hulling factories is gradually depriving farmers of the ready and cheap oilcakes, pulse bye-products, wheat-bran and rice-bran when they were being processed locally.

With a view to providing proper feed to the cattle, Feed and Fodder Development Programme has been taken up. Improved grasses like lucerne and napier are being popularized since the inception of the Community Development Programme. Lucerne, which is raised as an irrigated crop and yields nutritious and luxurious green fodder throughout the year is gaining in popularity particularly in Kasrawad Tahsil. In the year 1965-66, lucerne was grown in 1,927 acres. Its seeds are being distributed. Some improved grasses like G.77 and para grass are being tried at the Government Farm. Silage making is also being popularized. Chaff cutters are gaining popularity they enable considerable saving in fodder.

Dairy Farming

There are no Government or private dairies in Khargone District. The milk supply for the towns is made by local *gaolees* who keep about 5 to 10 buffaloes and sell the milk in the towns like Khargone, Barwani, Maheshwar, Madleshwar and Barwaha. Milk supply to the towns is made from the neighbouring villages also as it is seen in Khargone. The Charan community is following this occupation and their colonies are noticed at some places, such as, Oon, Bistan, Amba etc. Besides, Sendhwa Goshala supplies about 15-20 seers of cow milk to Sendhwa town. There is sufficient scope for developing this industry on co-operative basis.

Sheep Farming

Sheep do not thrive in the climate of the District. The existing sheep population is mainly concentrated in a pocket comprising low-lying areas of Rajpur Tahsil. Paucity of green pastures in the dry hilly parts and preponderance of teak and *anjan* forests appear to be the main handicaps in the propagation of sheep. Only some communities, viz., Gadaria and Mankar maintain herds of sheep, each consisting from 50 to 100 in number. They reside in such villages where grazing facilities exist.

The existing sheep breed is of mixed type. Sheep are kept for wool and manure. The wool being hairy is of inferior quality. The wool-yield is 1½ lbs. per sheep. With a view to improving the breed of sheep a sheep and wool extension centre was opened at Talwada on 6th April, 1955, where rams of Magara breed are kept for propagation in the small pockets of sheep concentration. It has been observed that improvement in the quality of breed is noticed in F1 generation immediately.

Goats have a definite place in the livestock wealth of the District ranking next to cattle in numbers. The animals are not of some pure recognised breed. Some of the goats show dominant characteristics of Bikaneri breed and some of

the Jamnapari breed. In some places animals of a mixed breed of Barbari and Jamnapari are also met with. The colour of the goats is mostly black with white spots.

Since goat is the poorman's cow and is also the main source of mutton, efforts are being made to improve the existing breeds of goat and to popularize dual purpose breed-good for mutton and milk both. Keeping these points in view, under the present breeding policy for goats, Barbari breed of goats is being introduced in the District. Barbari bucks are supplied through the agency of Development Blocks on subsidy basis. Jamnapari bucks in favourable climate have also produced encouraging results.

Poultry Keeping

Poultry farming is a common practice amongst the tribals of the District. Every Bhil family maintains a number of fowls. Fowls are a favourite dish on festive occasions. Moreover, eggs, chicken and fowl are used as religious offerings; almost all of their gods, goddesses and Badvas require them. It is more economical to keep poultry than to purchase when needed. Poultry is also useful in destroying the insects and pests of fields.

The total poultry stock in the year 1961 numbered 3,86,557 out of which 3,86,040 were fowls, 244 were ducks and rest were 'others'. The poultry population which numbered 1,41,312 in 1951 increased to 3,39,943 in 1956, i.e., by 140 per cent. During the quinquennium 1956-61 the increase was only 14 per cent.

Majority of the stock is *desi* consisting of such varieties as naked-neck, *titri* and *teni*, which are poor yielders both quantitatively and qualitativery. In 1961 only 762 birds were enumerated as improved out of 3.87 lakhs. The annual production of eggs per bird is between 50 to 60 which are small in size. The fowls for the table purposes are poor in quality and flavour.

Poultry farming is practised by the Adivasis all over the District. Mohemmadans have adopted it as a means of supplementing their income. The existing poultry industry is marked by very primitive conditions of housing, feeding and management, as breeding and rearing of the bulk of the poultry is in the hands of poor and ignorant villagers. The rearing and upkeep of poultry cost them very little. The chicks hatched under hens are given a few extra supplements of small grains up to one month. They are generally fed on broken grains. From the second month onwards they are allowed to go out with the hens in search of food. They move about freely in the open yards and fields around the houses and feed on grains, refuse, green and insects. As for housing, the producers generally construct crude type of mud houses or use ordinary type of big baskets which do not cost much. The eggs are exported to Indore, etc., from Sendhwa, Thikari and Barwani areas. A number of measures have been initiated for modernizing the industry.

A poultry unit was started at Barwani which was later converted into a full-fledged poultry and hatching centre on 4th March, 1958. Small poultry units are maintained at the M.P.T. Blocks located at Zirnia, Bhagwanpura, Silawad and Warla. They were established during the year 1953-54. These units were, however, closed on 31st March, 1963. A poultry centre was started at Thikari on November 10, 1955. This was later amalgamated with the District Poultry Unit which started functioning at Khargone from April 1, 1961. This was done to maintain a big centre where a large number of birds could be maintained to meet the demands of the whole District and to render technical advice on concerned matters.

Back-yard poultry units have been started in the private sector on subsidy basis through the agency of Blocks during the Second Five Year Plan. This work is being pushed ahead and more of such units are coming into existence. These agencies are being utilized to train *Adivasis* and other interested persons in modern methods of poultry farming. Applied Nutrition Programme regarding poultry development was started in Thikari Block in 1963-64. It covers 21 villages.

Further, the eggs of White-Leghorn birds are exchanged with the *desi* ones of *Adivasis* for hatching purposes. White-Leghorn cocks are also exchanged for improving flocks of *Adivasis*. Prophylactic vaccinations are carried out to eliminate the poultry diseases. Consequently, a sharp decline in poultry mortality has been observed. A scheme for the preparation and supply of balanced poultry feed is being started.

The poultry industry bids a promising future. The demand for eggs and birds is daily increasing and their value as protective foods is constantly being realised. The old and retired persons are taking to it to supplement their earnings.

Fishery

The Narmada, the principal river of the District, is the main source of fish catch and fish-seed collection. Fish-seed collection centres have been located along the river at Maheshwar, Mandleshwar, Barwaha (Mortakka), Khargone and other places. Maheshwar and Barwaha serve as centres for collecting spawns of fastest growing major carps. The remaining centres yield *Mahaseer* fry and fingerlings. Millions of fish-seed collected is used for stocking the ponds of the District as well as for export outside the Ditrict.

Amongst the innumerable riverine fish varieties found in this District, some of the economic ones are such as *Catla catla*, *Cirrhina mrigala*, *Labeo rohita*, *Labeo fimbriatus*, *Labeo calbasu*, and *Tor tor*. The Narmada is the only source of Mahaseer. Apart from these, *Labeo bata*, *Barbus sarana*, *Wallago attu*, *Heteropneustes fossilis*, and *Mastocembelus armatus*, constitute fisheries of secondary

importance. Some health fishes, just as *Chela bacaila*, *Nemachilus botia*, and *Glass fish*, etc., are also found which check the various water-borne diseases.

Small rivers draining the District like, the Veda, the Kunda, the Satak, etc., yield minor varieties of minor carps.

From the year 1954-55, when the pisciculture development programme started in the District, this industry is gradually being put on scientific lines.

Fish seed collection work, *the sine qua non* of fish development and stocking of tanks can also be traced to the inauguration of the above programme. Suitable collection centres have been located, and seeds of fastest growing fishes are collected at nominal cost and supplied to meet the demands of the District and outside. The old crude method of sending fish-seed has been replaced by specially prepared transportation vessels to ensure maximum economy and minimum mortality. The local fisher-folk plied their trade by primitive, uneconomic and wasteful methods. They used dragnets cast nets and long line. They are encouraged to adopt improved types of craft and tackle. They are gradually taking to gill nets Rangoon-nets made from imported terylene and nylon fibre. Further, the fishermen are encouraged to organise co-operative societies so that the benefit of grants and loans in cash and kind could be extended to them. One such society was in the year 1963 at the village of Oon.

The fish-spawn collected during the rainy season is reared in nurseries. These are either small seasonal ponds or constructed nurseries of 80 ft. × 50 ft. × 6 ft. size. Maheshwar nursery established in the year 1956-57 is situated quite close to the collection centre of the same name. The other, named Gandhi nursery, is located at Pipliya The nursery ponds are kept ready before rainy season to receive the spawn. Before a particular variety of fish seed is released, the chemical, physical, and biological properties of water and the area of the water-spread are studied to determine the suitability of water for ensuring maximum growth. In the month of May it is properly cleaned, desilted and manured with cowdung to increase zoo and physo plankton before liberation of fish-seed. Constant netting is repeated to remove fish enemies just as frogs, toads, water insects, etc. To eliminate other fish enemies, *viz.*, water-bugs and water-beetles which escape netting, oil-soap emulsion treatment is given to the nurseries. With a view to giving exercise to the young fish, so that they do not become sluggish, netting is repeated in the nurseries twice a week. Weekly records of growth are maintained. In case of scarcity of food, artificial fish-feed is supplied. When they attain the size of 3 inches to 6 inches they are transferred to the stocking tanks. Now they are sturdy enough to withstand the attacks of their enemies. The fishing season lasts from October to June. The rainy season, i.e., the months from June to September, is the breeding season for major carps, *viz.*, *Catla*, *Rohu*. *Narain*, *Calbasu*, etc. Generally, other important varieties of fish also breed in rainy season. *Barbus tor* breeds in october Unrestricted fishing is permitted in the

rivers except in certain areas of the rivers during the breeding season. This closed season is also observed fully in stocking tanks. Tanks and reservoirs are auctioned by Public Works Department on contract basis while in the Departmental tanks the fishing is done on royalty basis, either by Department itself or by co-operative societies.

Quantum of fish production is not so high as to permit exports outside the District on commercial basis. However, the local fishermen send their catches to nearby urban centres *viz.*, Khandwa, Indore, Dhar, etc., with a view to fetching higher prices.

There is sufficient scope for development of fisheries approximately over 2,500 acres of water area in the newly constructed Satak reservoir, big reservoirs like Gagan tank and other small perennial tanks. A new scheme of 'Intensive Pisciculture Development' has been introduced in Gagan tank. A Fish Seed-cum-Distribution Farm is also proposed to be established at Pipliya under the same Scheme. The tanks under Departmental development are Jamania, Virla, Lachhora, and Gagan while those under Block Development are Satak, Sestia, Ranjit, Sendhwa, Sarlai and Munshi-ka-Talab. Pisciculture development work is being extended through Gram Panchayats at Surpala, Jaithwaha and Balwada tanks.

Cattle Diseases

The common diseases from which cattle suffer are haemorrhagic septicaemia, black quarter, rinderpest, anthrax, foot and mouth, and rabies. Rinderpest is the most prominent disease occuring in the District. The reasons responsible for the disease are hilly nature of the District and influx of the animals from outside the State which serve as carriers of the germ. Haemorrhagic septicaemia commonly occurs in rainy season in lowlying areas, particularly in Rajpur, Maheshwar and Barwani Tahsils. Occurrence of black quarter and anthrax is comparatively much less. Rabies is a common menace affecting all tahsils and it is reported that cases of rabies-infection are on the increase. However, in general it has been noticed that cattle maintain comparatively better health on account of the dry climate of the District.

Some diseases, *viz.*, actinomycotic tumours of neck, cancer of horns and eyes appear to be associated with the climatic and soil conditions of the District.

Various indigenous methods for curing the ailments of the cattle are in vogue amongst the Adivasis and other cattle keepers of the District. Stamping with a piece of hot iron is quite common in case of abdominal diseases, eye diseases and fracture cases. For controlling contagious diseases the common practice is to make *tala* in villages in which one rope is tied across a much frequented street of the village and all the animals of the village are made to pass beneath it.

Leaves and fruits of trees found in the vicinity of the villages are used for curing diseases of the digestive and respiratory system. *Menhadi belgiri* and *akda* are the common plants used for this purpose. A creeper called *hadjod* is widely used in cases of fracture of bones.

However, since the opening of the veterinary hospitals and dispensaries these domestic cures are not so much in vogue.

The Rinderpest Eradication Scheme was started in the District in the year 1958 with a view to uprooting the scourge of this dreadful epizootic. The first phase of vaccinating animals in all the villages was completed in 1960. Vaccinations to the extent of 2.5 lakhs were given which covered about 45 per cent of the total cattle population. The work was restarted in February 1962, in the villages situated on the border of the District with a view to forming an immunized zone. No sooner does a disease raise its head, control measures are taken up. They have proved quite effective and the farmers are now convinced of the efficacy of prophylactic vaccinations carried out against various contagious diseases.

Diseases Control

The oldest veterinary hospital of the District is situated at Khargone which was started in the opening years of the present Century. Another hospital was started at Barwaha in 1927. Barwani State constructed a veterinary hospital at Barwani in 1938 at a cost of Rs. 24,054. There was considerable expansion in facilities for treatment of livestock during the course of three consecutive Five Year Plans and veterinary institutions were established in quick succession. The gradual growths of veterinary institutions in the District is shown in Appenix-A.

The demand for opening more dispensaries still exists for some villages are still 10-12 miles far off from a veterinary dispensary. A mobile veterinary unit was set up on 1st March, 1964, with headquarters at Khargone to render aid wherever required. The supply of medicine chests to the Village Level Workers has also contributed in providing veterinary first-aid in rural areas in no small measure.

Another aspect of overall problem of cattle improvement is better breeding This refers to upgrading the inherent qualities of the animal either for milk or draught or both.

The erstwhile Barwani and Holkar States had made some beginnings in the direction of improving local cattle by introducing a few breeding bulls in some villages. However, regular schemes were taken up for implementation since the formation of Madhya Bharat.

The work comprises such schemes as (1) Key Villages, (2) Artificial insemination, (3) Supply of improved bulls on subsidy, (4) Castration of scrub bulls, (5) *Gosadans* and (6) *Goshalas*.

Key village centres were started at Bhawti (Sendhwa) and Niwali (Barwani) in the year 1950 with 10 and 6 bulls, respectively. They still continue to serve the rural areas.

To cater to the needs of tribal areas, Key Village units have been opened in the M.P.T. Blocks, Barwani, Bhikangaon, and Khargone.

Shortage of improved bulls has been made up by resorting to artificial insemination. Two artificial insemination centres are working at Thikari and Segaon. The former was established on 20th January, 1955, with Key Villages of Davana, Nandwada, Pipalgaon, Brahmangaon, Nimrani and Khurrampura attached to it. The latter came into existence on 1st April, 1956. The Key Village of Dasnawad, Ghegaon, Talakpura, Raibirpura, Rasgaon ard Julwani are attached to it. Artificial insemination service has been extended by the organisation of artificial insemination units which are presently working at Khargone, Bhikangaon, Barwani, Rajpur, Sendhwa, Kasrawad, Bodia, Anjad, and Maheshwar. They were set up during the years 1959 to 1962.

Khargone being important for Nimari cattle it was but natural that attempts were made to preserve and propagate this breed. So a bull-rearing farm was established at Rodiya on February 28, 1954, in Bhikangaon Tahsil by the former Madhya Bharat Government. The object of the farm is to rear up selected Nimari bull calves up to breeding age and distribute them to Key Village Centres and Blocks. With the coming into existence of new enlarged State of Madhya Pradesh, the area of Nimari breed also increased pushing up the demand for Nimari bulls. With a view to meeting this demand, extension programme for the farm is underway. Besides, cattle breeding extension units have also been opened through Development Blocks at Dhargaon, Menimata, Piplaj, Balkua, Dhanora, Balakwada, Barood and Bagod, Talwada, Dodwa, Balwada and warla.

For providing service to the urban areas to breeding bulls have been kept at the District Headquarters Hospital. One breeding bull is kept at each tribal welfare centre. Besides, bulls are also distributed on subsidy basis in the Block areas

It may be noted here that the policy adopted by the State Government for this District is to propagate Nimari breed in rural areas for draught purposes and Gir breed in urban areas for milk.

Goshalas

There are at present two *goshalas* existing in the District, namely, Radha Krishna Goshala, Sendhwa and Gopal Goshala, Barwaha. The Goshala at Sanawad has ceased functioning. The condition of existing *goshalas* leaves much to be desired.

Gosadan

A *gosadan* was established at Okhala during the First Five Year Plan in 1954 with a view to maintaining useless, old and uneconomic cattle. The management rests with the Goshala Sangh, Madhya Bharat, while funds are provided by the Government. Land has been obtained from the Forest Department for grazing and securing grass for the summer season. A truck is provided at the Divisional level for the transport of incapacitated animals to the *gosadan*. It can accommodate 150 animals at a time and further expansion of its capacity is under contemplation. Useless animals are also exported to Bombay for slaughter.

Cattle Fairs

Looking to the cattle wealth and the demand for Nimari bullocks the cattle fairs are few in number. Nimari animals are supplied in large numbers to Khandesh (Maharashtra State) and adjoining districts of East Nimar, Dhar and Betul. Besides, Government is also a regular buyer for distribution of bulls in Development Blocks. Pairs of male calves are bought by middlemen who rear them and sell them when grown up.

Cattle are taken to Singaji fair in East Nimar District. It is a very big and reputed cattle fair. Within the District cattle fairs are held at Pipliya and Navgarh. The Pipliya fair is held in December-January (Margshirsh Sudi 11 to Posh Sudi 10) in Maheshwar Tahsil in the name of Kaluji Maharaj. About 2,000 animals are sold each year in the fair. Fairs at Anjad and Dawana attract only a thousand each. Weekly cattle *hats* are held at Rajpur, Gogawa, Sendhwa and Khetia.

Nimari Bullocks form an important item of trade of the District. Buffaloes too change hands, though in small numbers. Average prices of Nimari bullocks range between Rs. 1,200 and Rs. 2,000 while good pairs fetch as high a price as Rs. 3,000.

FORESTRY

The forest provide numerous produce essential for human living, the subsistence of agriculture, and many industries. They are the source of livelihood for many poor and landless aboriginal families of the District who eke out their precarious living by collecting fuel, grass, and other specified forest produce and selling it in the local market. They are employed in various forest works, *viz.*, working of forest coupes, construction and repair of forest buildings and roads, and in turn get wages.

Forests provide basic raw materials for various cottage and small-scale industries of the District, *viz.*, bamboo for baskets, brooms, *tattas*, etc., prepared by Bargundas, Jhamrals and *Adivasis*; *sirali* for baskets and *tattas*; *tendu* leaves

for *bidi* manufacture; soft-wooded species like *salai, semal, dudhi,* etc., for toys and combs; wood for furniture; *mahua* flowers for manufacture of country liquor; *mahua* seed for oil, cake, etc. The forests have thus in store resources, which if harnessed properly, can bring prosperity to the District by raising employment levels and incomes of individuals and the State.

The contribution of forests, in so far as it concerns its effects on fertility, soil conservation, climate, and sub-soil water, needs no reiteration.

Forest Produce

The forest produce is classified in the following two categories:

1. Major forest produce.
2. Minor forest produce.

Major Forest Produce

Timber, fuelwood, and charcoal form the major forest produce of the District. The main timber yielding species are teak, *anjan saj, bija, tinsa, haldu,* and *shisham*. Teak, *salai* and *anjan* are found in abundance. Amongst timber trees the demand of teak trees is heavy both locally as well as in external markets and is saleable in all available sizes. Teak is supplied to Indore within the State and to Chopda, Sirpur and Dhulia in Maharashtra State. The main exporting centres are Khargone, Barwaha, Sanawad, Sendhwa, Warla, Dhaoli and Khetia.

Next in importance is *salai*, the basic raw material for the manufacture of newsprint, hard-board photo-frame, cut-pictures and packing cases. It is widely used in interior fittings. Only very little quantity is used locally. Major portion of the *salai* which comes out of the forests finds market in Indore. Recently, *salai* has come in great demand.

Heart-wood of *anjan* is sold as *kalia* for posts. Anything above 30 inches girth yields *kalia*, which is readily saleable. Due to high prices of teak as a result of alround demand, other timbers such as *saj, tendu, bija,* and *khair* which escaped exploitation in former days are also in demand in view of lower cost. *anjan* when once cut, does not flourish, as a result this species is gradually disappearing.

Generally, three kinds of fuelwood are recognised in the market. *Dhaoda* and *khair* yield the best firewood, locally called as *pacca* and fetch the maximum price. The fire wood of *anjan, mokha, aonla, saj* and *tendu* is considered middle class, whereas that of teak, *salai* and *palas* of the cheapest variety.

Tree species of high calorific value are utilized for the manufacture of charcoal. It is manufactured from first class fuel species, viz., *dhaora, khair anjan* and mixture of second and third class species. Major portion of charcoal is exported to nearby markets, principally to Indore.

The demand of the forest produce, particularly, timber and bamboos rose tremendously during the Second World War. Eventually, the prices also increased. Even after the end of the War, they have been rising in conformity with the general trend of the prices of other commodities. The accelerated pace of development works, improved communications and improving material standard of living have further enhanced the demand and thereby the prices. A coupe which used to fetch Rs. 20 per acre in the year 1939 in pre-War times, is now fetching Rs. 500 per acre, or even more.

Minor Forest Produce

Minor forest produce comprises bamboos, grasses, *tendu* leaves, *mahua* flower and fruit, *lakh*, gum, medicinal plants and others.

Bamboos found in the District are *dendrocalamus strictus* and are present only in Pansemal. Bistan, Sendhwa, Warla, Mandleshwar and Barwaha ranges. Bamboos are utilized within the District and little remains for export. The forests of the District are capable of supplying large quantities of good fodder grasses. *Rusa* oil is extracted from the grass of the same name which is a valuable product and is mostly exported. *Tendu* leaves are used in the manufacture of *bidis*. They meet the local as well as the outside demand of *bidi* industry. *Kullugum* is much in demand for its use in confectionery and is exported out of the District. *Dhaoda* gum comes next to *kullu* gum in order of importance. *Mahua* fruits and flowers are collected and consumed locally. A part of supplies also goes to the Barwaha Distillery. Though the forests are rich in medicinal plants and herbs, but their collection is not much in evidence due to want of demand. Similarly, there is not much of *lakh* cultivation in the District.

An idea of the volume and value of important items of the forest produce extracted from the forests of the District during the years 1965-66 to 1967-68 has been given in the Table below—

(In '000 Rs.)

Year	Timber	Fire-wood	Bamboos	Gums & Resin	Grass	Leaves
1965-66	1087.6	380.8	4.6	224.3	299.7	260.4
1966-67	782.1	376.9	16.4	381.0	291.5	295.6
1967-68	1623.5	374.2	14.4	352.0	222.8	745.7

Markets

The forest produce is utilized locally as well as exported to markets in adjoining areas. Large quantities of firewood from the Satpura is consumed by the ginning factories, the most important being at Khargone, Bhikangaon, Sendhwa, Barwaha, Dhamnod, Anjad and Khetia.

The following are the markets for timber and grass in the District where weekly bazars are held.—

Khargone, Bhikangaon, Barood, Bistan, Sendhwa, Khetia, Anjad, Rajpur, Barwani, Dhamnod, Gujari, Mandleshwar, Maheshwar, Balwada, Barwaha and Sanawad.

Timber, charcoal and fuel find their way to Indore and Khandwa within the State and Sirpur, Chopda and Dhulia in Maharashtra State. In times of scarcity of fodder in Maharashtra, the aforesaid three markets of that State, import large quantities of grasses also from this District.

Nistar

The available records reveal that till the beginning of the Century this area was thinly populated and cultivation was dotted throughout the forest. The local population in addition to their day-to-day needs utilised forest produce, particularly timber, for maintaining themselves by cutting trees of their own choice.

Some restrictions were imposed in 1909 and 1910, when the forests were demarcated. The area of forests left outside the demarcation named as *chhota* jungle was more than sufficient to meet the entire requirements of the local population. The Reserved forests which were in compact blocks were almost free from burden of rights of any sort. However, concession of dead and dry fuel wood, free grazing of the essential cattle, roots and leaves and timber of uneconomical species was permitted under a system known as commutation system sanctioned by Holkar Government.

This concession was only free to those villages which adjoined the Reserved forests or a portion therefrom was included in Reserve forests. The villagers were permitted to avail themselves of this concession on payment of annual commutation fee of 50 p. per plough. The concession was continued till the formation of Madhya Bharat.

These concessions were replaced by the Madhya Bharat Government in 1954 and 1956.[1] These concessions were further allowed to be continued till further orders.[2] As per this system (Commutation system) any villager of a commuted village who pays the commutation fee can avail himself of the concession.

The concessions are as follows.—

1. Dry and dead fuel wood for *bona fide* domestic use-4 cartloads.

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1. Notification No. 2892/10 FT/539/53, dated 6th December, 1954, and No. 4818/10 Forests/539/53, dated 16th October, 1956.

2. M.P. Government Notification No. 4793/X/60, dated 2nd May, 1960.

2. Dry bamboos—20 Nos.
3. Fodder for cattle by headloads or cartloads-4 cartloads.
4. Leaves except *anjan* and *tendu* leaves as per requirement.
5. Thorns-4 cartloads.
6. Roots of *palas* as per requirement.
7. Grazing—a pair of bullocks per plough of cultivation.

The supply of timber for *nistar* purposes was available till about 1940. During Second World War and with the dawn of Independence when conditions of communication and finance improved, more land was brought under plough, thereby reducing the village forests, *nistar* gradually became a problem. To provide *nistar* timber the Government of Madhya Bharat initiated *nistar* policy, and vide Madhya Bharat Government Forest and Tribal Walfare Department Notification No. 2235-10/F-368, dated 9th May, 1956, ordered to reserve 10 per cent of the area of annual coupes for supply of timber and firwood to the agriculturists on payment. This has been further modified by the Madhya Bharat Government Order. According to the same, *nistar* area, in the same proportion is delimited in the annual coupes either scattered or unified to supply the *nistar* material. The rates for *nistarees* have been reduced to half of the commercial rates plus exploitation, transport and supervision charges. The *nistar* depots are established to make the supplies available at convenient places and in the open season.

Most of the area of the Forest Division forms part of the main Sutpura hills inhabited by illiterate and backward *Adivasis* who mainly subsist on cultivation and collection of forest produce. Those who have means of cultivation force their way into the Reserved forests and start cultivation. This practice is discernible from 1951-52. All efforts to curb this menace have borne little fruit, allegedly due to certain vested intersts. Certain opportunist moneylenders have also sprung up to take advantage of this situation thereby giving impetus to the problem and making heavy encroachments. The area forcibly encroached upon by these *Adivasis* is about 57,000 acres. The problem is also assuming serious proportion. With the high rates of wood, the theft cases are increasing constantly. Such difficulties are of very serious nature and are a burning problem of the most of the forests of the District.

Plantations

Recently, work of planting valuable species of trees like teak has been started. Afforestation work is also taken up in the degraded forests. The scheme of 'Economic Plantations of Exotic Varieties' was started in 1962-63, when trials on species like cassia and some eucalyptus varieties were taken up.

For the effective implementation of afforestation measures nurseries which supply saplings are essential and with this end in view they have been established at a number of convenient places shown below.—

Range	Place	Area	Species
Barwani	Danod	1.5 acres	*Neem, mahaneem bakain, babul*
Pansemal	Pansemal	4 „	Teak
Sendhwa	Khadkia	6 „	Eucalyptus
Khargone	Khargone	1 acres	Species for road side planting
Barwaha*		5 acres	Teak, species for road-side planting.

*called Jayantimata nursery, Barwaha

Forest Research Plots have been set up in the District in suitable areas during the last ten years to study varius aspects of forestry development in the District. They are described in a tabular form below.—

Name and Kind of Plot	Situation	Range	Year of Formation	Species
Conservator of Forests	Pipalzhopa	Bistan	1963	*Salai*, Teak, etc.
Linear increment Plot	Jayantimata Nursery	Barwaha	25.11.53	Teak
Phenological Plot	Modri	Barwaha	16.2.55	Chirol
Phenological Plot	Modri	Barwaha	16.2.55	Dhaoda

A Forest Guard Training School located at Barwaha turns out forest personnel of lower ranks for bringing forest exploitation and management on scientific lines.

As noted earlier, the hills have been denuded of their forest cover due to unrestricted and heavy felling accelerating the soil erosion problem of the District. Measures have been undertaken by the Forest Department to prevent soil losses.

The soil conservation scheme was implemented with the basic idea of prevention of soil erosion in the areas barefooted of all vegetative cover and to protect the low-lying plain areas adjoining hillocks from further destruction. The following works were carried out in the West Division depending on nature

of the soil and extent of slope, etc. Only Reserved forest areas were selected for the purpose.

Trenches of various sizes, viz., (1) 5 ft. long 1½ ft. wide, 1 ft. deep, (ii) 10 ft. × 1½ ft. × 1½ ft. (iii) 20 ft. × 1½ ft. × 1½ ft. in staggered arrangement were dug normally during February to May along the contours with vertical interval of 10 ft. to conserve moisture along the slopes. No trenches were dug along precipitous cliffs, expansive rock exposures and wellwooded patches. Each trench was provided with an angle of repose to safeguard against an immediate filling up in the year of formation. Check-dams and gullyplugging were also provided along the cut-up portions to check up run-off.

After soil working, prior to the break of monsoon, all the trenches, pits of 1 ft. × 1 ft. × 1 ft. (in fairly gentle sloping areas) and check-dams were sown with seeds of miscellaneous species, viz., *Neem, Kashtar, mahaneem, anjan kanji, prosopis, bakain, babul, parkinsomia, khair, siris, sissoo, movan, ailaynthus, excelsa, bahera, amaltas,* teak, etc. During monsoon transplanting of the above seeds were also tried along with root-shoot cuttings of teak. Sowing of seeds was also done along three lines in each trench, first on the mount, second in the middle and third just above trench bed.

Ailanthus, Albizzia, amara, khair, and teak have shown better results. The rest of the species although initially germinated well but could not stand the arid conditions of the locality and died.

The initial reaclamation was seen with the spread of good quality grasses all over the areas brought under soil conservation technique, and with the prevention of soil runoff, the ecological succession also started and the natural regeneration of timber species is noticed in some of the well protected areas.

STATE ASSISTANCE TO AGRICULTURE

Assistance extended by Government to the agricultural community is in the form of *taccavi*. Provision for grant of *taccavi* exists is the Land Improvement Loans Act 1883 and Agriculturists' Loans Act, 1884. *Taccavi* loans under the Land Improvement Loans Act are intended to encourage the improvement of agricultural land and need not in principle be restricted either to poor cultivators or to times of distress. Financial assistance under the latter Act is intended primarily to relieve distress or to assist the poor cultivators in financing their agricultural operations. The Table given below shows the *taccavi* loans distributed in recent years is the District under the aforesaid two enactments.

(In Rs.)

Year	Land Improvement Loans Act.	Agriculturists' Loans Act.
1965-66	2,76,411	8,28,076
1966-67	5,44,224	4 83,225
1967-68	12,18,011	31,51,321
1968-69	15,68,700	1,58,585

FAMINES

Consolidated famine record of the District is not available as the District was constituted out of different princely States. The western part of the District, chiefly, the erstwhile Barwani State faced the first recorded famine in the year 1897, and the entire State was affected. The famine lasted from November, 1896, to the end of September, 1897. Jowar, maize and bajra, the staple foodgrains, were sold at five and six seers to the rupee. During this period Government godowns were opened to make available cheap grain to the subjects.

The famine of 1896-97 was followed by an abundant monsoon with bumper *kharif* crop. This bumper crop brought down the price line and the normal trade started. But the failure of monsoon in 1899 gave the signal for the approaching distress. The *kharif* crops failed completely resulting in the dearth of both food and fodder. The vagaries of nature, even after so much of havoc did not cease, the usual winter rains also held off that year and a terrible spectre of water famine also loomed large at the close of 1899. In the western part of the District (in erstwhile Barwani State) the rainfall in Barwani *pargana* amounted to only seven inches and in Anjad to six. The rates touched the low level of five to six seers of grains to the rupee in a country where the ordinary rates were from 50 to 60 seers. People sold their ornaments and household utensils only joining the relief camps when every thing was sold. With these famine conditions cholera broke out in April and carried away a heavy toll of lives. Relief works were immediately opened and gratuitous relief was given. The total cost to the State was Rs. 3.7 lakhs. Besides, some help was also received from the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund. Concessions and remissions were granted in the land revenue to the peasants. Nimar District of the Holkar State could not remain unaffected. Besides usual measures some changes, particularly regarding the revenue policy were also brought in as it was realised that all was not well with its land revenue policy and the urgent necessity of lowering down the revenue assessment became apparent.

The erstwhile State of Barwani again witnessed the calamity of famine in the year 1901-02 which was caused by rats and locusts which completely destroyed the standing crop over an area of about 600 sq miles. The magnitued of the calamity was, however, not so serious as that of 1899-1900.

The shortage and unequal distribution of rain in 1907 brought once again anxious times in Nimar District of erstwhile Indore State. Early in October the condition of the kharif crop caused considerable anxiety and urgent steps were taken to gauge the extent of loss actually suffered.

The scarcity developed into a famine by the middle of April, 1908. Prompt measures were taken by the Government regarding remission and suspension

of revenue. *Taccavi* advances and gratuitous relief were provided on liberal basis.

The famine of 1907-08 was followed by another famine in 1911-12 in Nimar District of the old Indore State. This famine covered five *parganas* an area of 1,430 sq. miles with a population of nearly a lakh and a half consisting mainly of agricultural and labouring classes. The reason of the famine was the scanty rainfall which resulted into a total failure of *kharif* crops. To meet the challenge of nature a well-guided plan was set out for famine relief. Land revenue over Rs. three and half lakhs was remitted or suspended. Gratuitous relief works were organised on a considerable scale and advances of over a lakh of rupees were made for purchase of agricultural and plough cattle. These steps helped to ease the situation and there was no emigration nor any case of emaciation or death due to starvation. The effect of this famine was disastrous on cattle.

The year 1918 was bad for Nimar District of Holkar State, so far as crops were concerned. But conditions did not descend to the level of scarcity.

During 1948-49, as the rainfall was in excess of the normal, *kharif* crops suffered in consequence. It is estimated that the crop was six annas in a rupee.

The year 1952-53 was one of great privation and hardship to the District. The rainfall was not only scanty, it was untimely as well. Much of the agricultural land remained unsown. Whatever land could be sown gave an out-turn ranging between four six annas in the rupee. Famine was declared and a programme of famine-relief works was immediately taken up. Construction work of 31 miles of fair weather roads and 20 miles *kutcha* roads was taken up. *Nistar* tanks were deepened. Payment of *taccavi* and land revenue was suspended and *taccavi* for the construction of wells was advanced. Supply of *rabi* seed was arranged. Free food was also supplied.

CHAPTER V

INDUSTRIES

A reference in the earlier Gazetteer makes a mention of the fact that out of the total population of the District as per 1921 Census no less than 70 per cent followed agricultural or pastoral pursuits including fishing, hunting and general labour. The percentage included the workers and their dependents. The industries of various kinds provided employment to nearly nine per cent.

In the year 1951, there were 28,056 self-supporting persons and earning dependents in respect of their secondary means of livelihood, engaged in the activity "Production other than cultivation". The total population of the District in the year was 7,58,694. The percentage to total population works out to 3.69. Inclusive of the number of 31,120 non-earning dependents, the percentage works out to 7.79.

The population of "workers" in mining and quarrying, household and manufacturing other than household industries was 34,999 in the year 1961. The percentage of "workers" to the total population, which was 9,90,464 in the year 1961, works out to 3.53. The number of non-workers or dependents separately for different occupational classes for 1961 being not available, the comparison can be set only between economically active population for 1951 and 1961 census figures. This gives the percentage of 3.69 for 1951 and 3.53 for 1961 censuses. Thus, in the decade 1951-1961, the economically active population engaged in industrial activities in the District appears to have decreased. In absolute numbers, however, there was an increase in the number of economically active persons in industrial activity from 28,056 of 1951 to 34,999 of 1961, an increase of 6,943 persons within a decade.

OLD-TIME INDUSTRIES

All the traditional industries like handloom weaving, cloth dyeing and printing, carpentry, blacksmithy, tanning and leather goods (shoes) and lac bangle-making existed in the District, and are still working. In the economic set-up where agricultural activities are predominant and are still being carried on according to old methods all these industries continue to exist, catering to the needs of the rural masses.

From amongst the different old-time industries, handloom weaving industry at Maheshwar in the District had a very illustrious past. It was famous for its

production of *saris*, *lugadas*, and *dhotis* for over two centuries. Devi Ahilyabai Holkar was said to be responsible for the establishment of this industry at Maheshwar. She called the weavers from Gujarat and helped them to settle at Maheshwar. The underlying idea in establishing this industry was reported to be to meet the heavy demand for charitable purposes and special demand from royal families. This helped the industry in its development. Not only did the industry prosper during the benign rule of Devi Ahilyabai but established reputation for its products throughout the Country. Maheshwari *saris* came to be known for the "Maheshwar Border" which is reversable. It gives same effect on both the sides. The popularity of this border can be judged from the fact that the different centres of production elsewhere in the Country copied this design and tried to sell these *saris* as Maheshwar *saris*.

This industry suffered a set-back during alien rule as other textile industries, but with the achievement of Independence and adoption of the policy of development of cottage and small-scale industries, the attempts are being made to restore the industry to its old-time renown.

Cloth-printing and dyeing industry at Gogaon in the District was also famous for its workmanship.

Maheshwar had also a brass utensil manufacturing industry which flourished side by side with handloom weaving. Even now the Maheshwari utensils are famous for their quality and workmanship. The important varieties are Maheshwari *gundis*, *tapelas*, *bhagonas*, *lotas*, *degchies*, etc. These are very popular and command good sales at the fairs at Khargone, Sanawad. Thikari, Dhamnod (in Dhar District) and Singaji (in East Nimar District). The industry had received set-back due to competition from machine-made utensils manufactured at Indore, Ratlam, Ujjain, etc. Difficulties of getting raw materials also aggravated the sad plight of the industry.

Stone-carving industry at Kasrawad in the District had also its best innings in the olden days.

POWER

Barwani Power House

The first power-generating station in the District was started at Barwani in the year 1949. The Power Station had an installed capacity of 30 k.w. This was increased to 210 k.w. in the year 1958 and was 324 k.w. in the year 1962.

The number of consumers of electricity which was 137 in the year 1950, increased to 1,184 in the year 1962.

From the point of view of use of electricity as industrial power, it is worth noting that upto the year 1954, electricity was not used even for industrial power

of low and medium voltage, let alone high voltage. The use of electricity as industrial power of low and medium voltage, figures in 1955 and 1956 being 0.034 and 0.001 million k.w. hours, respectively. Obviously electricity of high voltage was not used as industrial power. This reflects the lack of industrial development in the region. This Power House was taken over by the Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board in the year 1957.

Khargone Power House

The next power station in the District was started in the year 1953 at Khargone with an installed capacity of 125 k.w. By 1958 the capacity was increased to 472 k.w. In the year 1964-65 the installed capacity was 517 k.w.

The number of consumers of electricity for all purposes which was 275 in the year 1954 increased to 821 in the year 1958. In the year 1963-64, the number of consumers was 1,672. In 1964-65 the number had increased to 1,811.

Consumption of electricity for industrial power, low and medium voltage was.—

Year	K.W. Hrs.
1960-61	1,84,602
1961-62	2,19,109
1962-63	2,86,974
1963-64	3,11,327
1964-65	3,30,142

The high voltage electricity was not consumed as industrial power.

The Power House was taken over by the Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board in the year 1957. Supply of power from Chambal was switched on from May, 1964.

Sanawad Power House

The Power House at Sanawad was started in the year 1955, with an installed capacity of 224 k.w., which increased to 344 k.w., by the year 1962.

The number of consumers of electricity for all purposes was 209 in the year 1956 which increased to 945 in the year 1963. While use of high voltage electricity towards industrial power was absent as in the case of other power stations, the consumption of industrial power, low and medium voltage, was 0.004 and 0.022 million k.w. hours for the year 1956 and in 1957-58, respectively.

This Power House was taken over by the Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board in the year 1957.

Maheshwar Power House

This Power House was started in the year 1956 with an installed capacity of 210 k.w., which increased to 322 k.w. in the year 1962. The number of consumers of electricity was 535 in the year 1962. The Power House was taken over by the Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board in the year 1957.

Sendhwa Power House

This Power House was established by the Municipal Committee, Sendhwa, in the year 1957 with an installed capacity of 78 k.w. By 1964-65 the capacity was reduced to 56 k.w. Supply of power from Chambal was switched on in July, 1964.

There were 561 consumers of electricity in the year 1962. By 1964-65, the number had increased to 653. The Station was taken over by the Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board in the year 1962.

Consumption of industrial power low and medium voltage from 1962-63 to 1964-65 was.—

Year	K.W. Hrs.
1962-63	215
1963-64	824
1964-65	12,295

Under the Rural Electrification Programme Sanawad, Burwaha, Maheshwar, Mandleshwar, Dhargoan, Kasrawad, Barwani, Anjad, Rajpur, and Sendhwa were electrified upto the year 1962.

By September, 1965, five villages, namely Ozar, Segaon, Un, Bhikangaon and Gogaon, were also electrified.

The poverty of the District in respect of industrial development becomes apparent from the figures given above in respect of some power stations for industrial power, low and medium voltage, the use of high voltage industrial power being not at all required at present for any industry in the District.

INDUSTRIES AND MANUFACTURES

Minerals

The District is devoid of any mineral resources like coal, iron-ore, etc., which can form the basis of the industrial development of the region. However, there appear to be patches of manganese and iron-ore in some parts of the District which are not sufficient for commercial exploitation.

Between Katkut and the Kanar river and at other places near Barwaha iron-ore was found to exist in a band of Bijawar brecc 10′ to 12′ thick. An

abortive attempt was reported to have been made as early as in the year 1860 to establish iron works.

Lameta sandstone and congolmerates cover a large area near Katkut. Near about are also Bijawar limestones, which are reported to have no economic importance.

Excellent building stones are reported to be found in the Lameta and Bagh beds. The finest is a "Coralline" limestone which furnishes a handsome marble. This was used in the construction of temples and places at Mandhata and Mandu, being quarried at Bowarla and Chirakhan.

Survey report of the District brought out by the Industries Department of the State Government in the year 1962 makes a mention of two minerals in the District *viz.*, limestone and clays. The limestones are reported to be available in an area about 100 acres, while clays in an area of 30 acres. The Directorate of Geology and Mining, Madhya Pradesh have estimated a considerable quantity of limestone within a radius of a few miles of Barwaha. The clays occur in the Kanar river, near Kanar, which is being used extensively for white-washing, locally.

Large-Scale Industries

There are no large-scale industries in the District, except one Spinning Mills located at Sanawad. The Mill was started in the Public Sector, with a view to supplying yarn to the handloom weavers in the District in adequate quantities. Production in the Mills was started in the month of February in the year 1964. The yarn manufactured in the Mills is supplied to the weavers of Burhanpur, Jabalpur, Indore, Rao, Maheshwar, Malegaon, Ratlam, Ujjain, etc. The capital investment in the Mills was of the order of about Rs. 65 lakhs. There were 130 workers employed in the Mills on an average daily in the year 1964. Licence has been granted for the expansion of the present Unit with additional 12,500 spindles.

Small-Scale Industries

The District being a cotton and oil seed growing tract, from amongst the small-scale industries, cotton ginning and processing, oil seeds crushing and decorticating units predominate in the District.

Cotton Ginning and Pressing

In the year 1948 with the formation of the Union of Madhya Bharat the small State of Barwani became the Sub-Division of Nimar District of the Indore Division. This State had three ginning factories at Anjar, Khetia and Talwada. The factories at Anjar and Khetia were established as early as in the year 1890 and at Talwada in the year 1903.

The earlier Gazetteer of Indore State published in the year 1908 mentions the existence of six ginning factories, four at Sanawad, one at Karai and one at

Nisarpur, with two cotton presses at Sanawad in the then Nimar *Zila*. It was the cotton-press which was first started in the District in the year 1901, another cotton-press and ginning factories were started in between 1902 and 1904.

Subsequent Gazetteer of the Indore State published in the year 1931 mentions that, "With the increased cultivation of cotton the connected industry of ginning and pressing has also assumed considerable importance here, there being no less than 48 ginning factories and 15 cotton presses in the district at the end of 1928. Almost all the ginning factories and cotton presses are worked by steam......".[1] In the year 1954 according to the list published by the Bureau of Economics and Statistics of the then Madhya Bharat Government, there were 60 ginning and pressing factories in the District employing on an average 4,765 workers daily. In recent years, in 1963, there were 45 ginning factories registered under the Factories Act 1948, out of which seven factories were reported closed during the year. Average daily employment was 2,437 workers. The number of ginning factories, however, remained the same in the year 1964, the factories, eight in number, remaining closed during the year. Average number of workers daily employed in that year was 2,670. The number of cotton-pressing units in the District in the year 1963 was 19, out of which one remained closed during the year. The average number of workers daily employed was 1,091. In the year 1964 the number of pressing units remained the same, with one unit reported closed during the year. The number of workers daily employed on an average was 968.

Oil Mills

The mention of nine oil mills appears in the Administration Report of Barwani State, for the year 1942-1945. The Gazetteers of 1908 and 1931 do not mention the existence of oil mills in the District as they do of cotton ginning and pressing factories. The list of registered factories under the Factories Act, 1948 for the year 1958, gives the number of oil mills in the District as 20. In the year 1963, there were 26 registered oil mills, of which three were reported to be closed during the year. The number of workers employed on an average daily in these mills was 714. In the year 1964 the number of registered factories remained the same as in 1963 i.e., 26, of which two were reported to be closed during the year. The average number of daily employment was 725 in all those oil mills during the year.

Decorticating Factories

The number of these factories in the year 1963 was 12, out of which two were closed during the year. In the year 1964 the number of registered factories increased to 13 out of which two units were closed during the year. The number of workers in these units was 174 and 188, respectively, in the years 1963 and 1964.

1. *Indore State Gazetteer*, 1931, p. 502.

Bidi Factories

In the years 1963 and 1964 each, there were five bidi manufacturing units registered under the Factories Act, 1948. During both these years, two factories were reported to be closed. The average daily number of workers employed in these units was 337 in 1963 and 330 in 1964

Government Handloom Factory

The existence of this factory dates back to the year 1910. It was working as a Government Handloom Centre for preservation of centuries old handloom industry at Maheshwar. The name of the centre appears as a factory in the list of factories registered under the Factories Act, 1948, for the year 1961. This Centre, however, worked as a demonstration centre, for which about eight looms were installed. There were no promotional or follow-up activities subsequent to demonstration. This situation was changed in the year 1955, and besides demonstration of improved techniques other activities like imparting training on improved equipments, providing technical assistance both to the weavers' societies and individual weavers at their cottages, and providing employment to weavers by undertaking production and supply of dyed yarn to the industry were undertaken. The Factory has introduced modern fly-shuttle looms, thus helping to increase production and earnings of the weavers from Rs. 50 to Rs. 80 per month. The weavers using silk are earning even more than Rs. 90 per month. Besides the introduction of fly-shuttle, the factory has supplied and installed at the cottages of the weavers, fly-shuttle slays, dobbies, take-up motion warp beams, cloth rollers, warping machines, etc. The Factory has also undertaken production activities on a small-scale to convince weavers of the benefits of improved techniques of production and designs. The Factory authorities also help weavers in the supply of raw materials, in organizing them on co-operative basis, in production of material for wider markets and in marketing the products. In addition, the Factory authorities have undertaken the responsibility of replacing handlooms by powerlooms with the availability of electricity at cheaper rates. In the year 1964 there were 50 workers working on an average daily in the Factory.

Gur Factories

There were two registered *gur* factories in the year 1964 one of which was closed during the year. The average number of workers daily employed in this factory was 20.

Metal Containers

One unit at Barwaha was engaged in the manufacture of metal containers during the year 1964. This unit on an average employed 50 workers daily.

Besides the factories registered under the Factories Act, 1948, as mentioned above there were about 13 saw-mills employing 40 workers in the year 1964.

Barwaha Tahsil in the District has one limestone quarry around which about 84 lime burning kilns exist, which are owned by eight proprietors.

Together these kilns employ on an average 60 workers daily. None of the lime burning kilns figures as a factory registered under the Factories Act, 1948.

Cottage Industries

Handloom Weaving

By far the most important cottage industry in the District is handloom weaving which through more than two centuries has had the period of prosperity and decay and is now emerging in its new form equipped to meet the challenge of the time. A reference to the origin and renown this industry achieved in the olden days has already been made earlier in the Chapter under old-time industries. The important centre in the District which is famous for its handloom products is Maheshwar; but besides Maheshwar, there are also other handloom weaving centres in the District like Barwani, Kasrawad, Thibgaon, Rajpur, Barwaha, and Sendhwa. In accordance with the policy of the Government to encourage the development of cottage industries they are now being organized on the co-operative basis. The handloom industry in the District is also similarly organized. Out of some 300 looms at Maheshwar, about 100 looms were working under the co-operative societies during the year 1963. At Maheshwar, there were 400 Hindu weavers' families and about 100 Momin weavers' families. There were two co-operative societies at Maheshwar, one of which, *viz.*, the Maheshwar Handloom Weavers' Co-operative Society was established in the year 1947 and another the Momin Weavers' Co-operative Society was established in the year 1954. The Momin weavers were particularly engaged in the weaving of coarse counts, but they are also now engaged in weaving fine counts in cotton and silk like the weavers in the other society. The Government through their Hondloom Factory at Maheshwar are giving all help to the co-operative societies and individual weavers in the matter of modern production techniques, adoption of modern designs, etc., details of which are already referred to while giving particulars about the Government Handloom Factory. The weavers at Maheshwar with the assistance of the Industries Department have introduced new designs in weaving of *saries* like *Ikal kinar, Kangra nakkas, Kheri nakkas, jalar kinar, Badak kinar, Paan kinar, Phool kinar, Chattay kinar* and *Pattai kinar*. The old traditional designs in vogue are Maheshwar *jari patti, Maheshwar Pugdi* and *Chattay kinar*. In the colour scheme of the products, light colours have been introduced with a view to catering to the modern tastes in urban areas. Under the Scheme of quality marking introduced in the year 1955 by the State Government with the help of the grant sanctioned by the Government of India, the quality of the fabrics and fast colours are guaranteed to the consumers. The Scheme is operated by the Government Handloom Factory. The entire production of the weavers is being checked and stamped before it is made available to the consumers. The Education Department of the State Government started a vocational training centre in the year 1953 for imparting training in the art of handloom weaving to the boys studying in the middle school. The yarn is supplied to the weavers through the Government Handloom Factory and the Weavers' Co-operative

Society, both at Maheshwar, as well as through local yarn dealers and yarn dealers at Bombay. The Government Handloom Factory and the Co-operative Society at Maheshwar supply yarn at cost price. The products of the Government Handloom Factory, as well as those of two societies are sent to the Central Godown at Indore, which is under the State Department of the Director of Industries. Both the societies have their own shops for sales at Maheshwar also. The societies also take up production against orders placed with them from the All-India Handloom Board, All-India Handicrafts Board, Central Cottage Industries Emporium. New Delhi, All-India Handloom Fabric Marketing Co-operative Society, Bombay, and such other institutions. Demand for the Maheshwar products from these institutions of all-India character prove that the products have secured market throughout the Country.

In the Barwani Block area there were two weavers' co-operatives in the year 1964, one at Barwani proper and another at Piplod. Bunkar Sahakari Samiti at Barwani was established in the year 1951 and had a membership of 85. The Society at Piplod was established in the year 1958 and had a membership of 17. Products of these societies are *do-suti*, *niwar* and towels.

Barwaha Block had also two weavers' societies, both established in the year 1956. The society at Barwaha proper had a membership of 107 in the year 1964. Another at Sala did not function. The handloom products were sheets, towels, etc.

In the Rajpur Block area there was only one Harijan Bunkar Sahakari Samiti, at Sangaon, established in the year 1855 with a membership of 24. The handloom products were napkins, towels, etc.

Kasrawad Block had two Bunkar Sahakari Samitis in the year 1964, one at Awarkachha established in 1955 and another at Satkur established in the year 1964, having a membership of 32 and 53, respectively. The societies produced handloom cloth for local requirements.

In Sendhwa Block area, there were 21 handloom weaving units in the year 1964. Thibgaon Block had Gramodyog Bunkar Sahakari Sabha, established in the year 1952, which had a substantial membership of 145 in the year 1964, manufacturing *durries*, *saris*, towels, *gadipats*, etc.

Dyeing and Printing

Reference has already been made to the one-time flourishing dyeing and printing industry at Gogaon in the District. The workers in this industry were organized in a co-operative in the year 1955, but by 1964 the society was reported to be not working. Another dyeing and printing society existed at Rajpur, which had a membership of 16 in the year 1964.

Carpentry

As per Standard Industrial Classification adopted by the Government of India, the number of persons engaged in the manufacture of structural wooden

goods such as beams, posts, doors and windows was 1,530 in the District in the year 1961. The carpenters do not appear to have formed themselves in a co-operative.

Blacksmithy

Like carpentry, black-smithy is also an old-time cottage industry, which is even now holding its own, especially in the rural areas, catering to the needs of the rural populace. As per Standard Industrial Classification, taking the manufacture of sundry hardware such as G.I. pipe, wire net, belt, screw, bucket, cutlery, etc., as equivalent to the manufacturing activities of blacksmiths, there were 1,204 blacksmiths in the District as per Census of 1961. The survey conducted by the Directorate of Industries in the year 1962 revealed the existence of two co-operative societies of blacksmiths in the District. Lohari Udyog Co-operative Society at Sendhwa and Vishwakarma Griha-udyog Co-operative Society at Barwaha. The society at Sendhwa was established in the year 1960 and had a membership of 21 in the year 1964. The Society at Barwaha was formed in the year 1958 and had a membership of 11 in the year 1964.

Pottery making

Carpenter, blacksmith and a potter are the integral part of the rural economy in the Country. According to the Standard Industrial classification, manufacture of earthen-ware and earthen pottery in the District provided work to 1,592 workers in the year 1961. There were 50 individual potters' units in Sendhwa Block in the year 1964. Thikari, Rajpur and Khargone Blocks had potters' societies, one in each Block with a total membership of about 34 in the year 1964.

Making of Brass Utensils

A reference has been made earlier to the existence of this industry in olden days at Maheshwar. Like Maheshwari handloom products, Maheshwari brass and copper utensils also had been famous for their finish Inspite of the competition from machine-made goods, this industry hold its own. The workers in this industry are now organized in a co-operative. It is known as Tamba Pital Patra Nirmata Sahakari Samiti, Maheshwar, and was organized in the year 1956. In the year 1962 the Society had 14 members. Maheshwari *gundies*, *tapelas*, *bhagonas*, *lotas*, *degchies*, etc., are famous for their quality and workmanship.

Leather Industry

According to 1964 Census there were 898 persons in the District engaged in currying, tanning and finishing hides and skins and preparation of finished leather. Manufacture of shoes and other leather footwear was carried on by 1,541 workers. Repair of shoes and other leather footwear engaged some 84 workers. The co-operative activity in this industry exists on a considerable scale. There were about 29 co-operative societies in this industry in the year

1962 as per survey conducted by the State Government's Department of Industries. In the year 1964 as per information from nine Community Development Blocks Barwani, Barwaha, Thikari, Zhirnia, Rajpur, Khargone, Gogaon, Kasrawad and Sendhwa, there were 29 co-operatives of leather workers, *viz.*, tanners and shoe-makers, with a total membership of 503. The largest number of co-operatives i.e., six was found in Thikari Block with a total membership of 98.

Oil Production

Besides 26 units registered under the Factories Act, 1948, engaged in the production of oils, oil-seeds crushing on cottage industry basis with the help of oil *ghanis* is also carried on in the District. The *ghanis* as well as other oil producing units are also organized on a co-operative basis. According to the survey conducted by the Industries Department, there were eight oil *ghani* co-operative societies in the District in the year 1962. The membership of oil *ghani* societies was 162. Besides these, there were seven other co-operatives in the field of oil manufacture. As per information available from the seven Block Development areas in the District, *viz.*, Sendhwa, Pansemal, Kasrawad, Gogaon, Rajpur, Thikari and Barwani, there were 12 oil manufacturing societies in these Blocks with a total membership of 214 in the year 1964.

Bamboo Works

Basket and broom-making still continues to be carried on a cottage industry basis, especially in the rural areas. Basket-making is carried on at Khargone, Shahpura, and Anchhali of Tahsil Sendhwa as well as at Barwani, Barwaha and Rajpur.

As per Standard Industrial Classification in the manufacture of materials from cork, bamboo, cane, leaves, etc., there were 1,879 workers in the year 1961. In the Pali Block there were 20 individual worker units of bamboo workers in the year 1964. Barwaha Block had two co-operative societies of basket-makers with 38 members in the same year. These societies were organized in the year 1962-63 and 1963-64. Anjad had a co-operative society of bamboo workers in Thikari Block. The Society was established in the year 1956 and had 11 members in 1964. There were 10 members in the bamboo workers society organized in the year 1954 at Rajpur. Co-operative Society at Khargone, organized in 1956, had 15 members in the year 1964. Sendhwa Block had a Co-operative Society of bamboo workers at Anchhali organized in the year 1961 and had a membership of 17 in 1964. Thus, in five Blocks there were six bamboo workers' societies with about 90 members.

Rope-Making

In this cottage industry according to Standard Industrial Classification, there were only 15 workers in the District in the year 1961. Perhaps, because of this small number of workers in this industry throughout the District, there was no co-operative society in this industry.

Brick and Tile Making

According to Standard Industrial Classification manufacture of structural clay products such as bricks, tiles, etc., was carried on by 888 workers in the District in the year 1961. In the year 1962 as per survey conducted by the Directorate of Industries there were four co-operative societies in this industry with about 46 members. Barwani Block had two brick and tile manufacturing societies with 43 members in the year 1964. Rajpur and Khargone Blocks had two societies of brick manufacturers, one in each Block, with a membership of 25 in the year 1964.

Goldsmithy

This old-time cottage industry which until recently was working in all parts of the Country without hindrance, except that of the increasing prices of gold and silver, had received a severe set-back by promulgation of Gold Control Order by the Government of India with effect from January, 1963. This Order has imposed several restrictions on possession, use, sale and purchase of gold. Business of goldsmiths has virtually come to a stand-still. In the year 1961 manufacture of jewellery, silver-ware and wares using gold and other precious metals engaged 1,222 workers in the District. As a repercussion of the Gold Control Order 1963, some 510 goldsmiths in the District were affected. These goldsmiths were given financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 10,000 in 1963-64, and Rs. 72,200 in the year 1964-65 to rehabilitate them in some other business or way of life. About 94 goldsmiths in the District had applied for licences to carry on their business as per terms and conditions of the Order. Self-employed goldsmiths in the District numbered 66, as per information received in the year 1965.

Tailoring

According to Standard Industrial Classification, making of textile garments including raincoats and headgear, provided employment to 3,154 persons in the year 1961. In different Community Development Blocks, tailoring business was also organized on a co-operative basis In Barwani Block, Silai Udyog Co-operative Society was organized at Talwada in the year 1963 for making ready-made garments. The Society had 11 members in the year 1964. At Julwania in Rajpur Block, Mahila Griha Udyog Sahakari Samiti was organised in 1960 for stitching clothes. Similarly, Nari Kalyan-Sahakari Samiti was organized at Khargone in 1961 which was engaged in tailoring work.

In Zirnia Block there was a Nari Griha Udyog Sahakari Sanstha organized in 1964 which was engaged in preparation of paper-bags.

Besides the industries mentioned above there are other cottage industries in the District like kambal-making, nails-making, wire drawing, etc. It will be clear from the account of the cottage industries given above that most of the cottage industries are organised on a co-operative basis, co-operation not only sustains these industries in competition with large-scale manufacturing, but

co-operation also makes introduction of modern techniques and equipment possible in the sphere of cottage industry products.

INDUSTRIAL ARTS

Among the industrial arts, mention may be made of the artistic handloom industry products, reference to which has already been made earlier in details. Printing of cloth at Gogaon and stone-carving industry at Kasrawad also produced artistic material in olden days. Attempts are now being made through the State Government's Department of Industries to revive these industries. Stone-carving industry at Kasrawad is organized on co-operative basis and the workers are being helped financially as well as in application of modern techniques and appliances.

INDUSTRIAL POTENTIAL

The District is lacking in the mineral and power resources and hence there are no possibilities of developing basic or heavy industries. However, as and when the scheme for the construction of Punasa Dam in the District comes up, hydroelectric power for industrial purposes can be available. It will then be possible to develop certain small-scale industries based on agricultural and forest resources of the Dirtiict. The District by virtue of its being a major oil-seeds producing area, a number of oil manufacturing units exist in the District. Therefore the Techno Economic Survey of the State conducted by the National Council of Applied Economic Research in the year 1958 envisaged a possibility of establishing a Solvent Extraction Unit at Khargone for extraction of oil from oil-cakes with a capacity of 50 tons per day at an estimated cost of Rs. 10 lakhs. There was also a proposal for the establishment of a Hard Board Factory at Barwaha, but the Third Five Year Plan of the State did not provide any funds towards the establishment of those plants.

The Third Five Year Plan of the State contained a provision of Rs. 45 lakhs for the Spinning Mills at Sanawad, which had already started production in the year 1964. As against total provision of the Plan period, Rs. 9 lakhs were provided for the year 1963-64.

The Government Handloom factory at Maheshwar was found to be technically understaffed to carry on its objective of rendering technical assistance and training facilities for weavers. Hence, a provision of Rs. 0.67 lakhs was made during the Third Plan for augmenting the technical staff as well as establishing water-softening plant and hydro-extractor at the Factory. Additional staff was employed in 1961-62, and was continued in subsequent years.

During the Third Five Year Plan period Khargone in the District was selected for the construction of Rural Industrial Estate, consisting of 4 to 10 sheds, of the cost varying from Rs. 1 lakh to Rs. 3 lakhs. Construction work was reported to be completed by 1963-64.

There was also a proposal for construction of Work Shed for the benefit of small industrialists in the Disirict. An amount of Rs. 28,000 was provided during the year 1963-64 towards construction of work-shed at Bhikangaon. Site was selected and three acres of land was acquired during 1963-64 for the purpose.

The Survey Report brought out by the Industries Department of the State Government in the year 1962 has listed some 88 industries, which could be started in the District. However, some of the small-scale industries that can be established in the District on the basis of availability of raw material and power are.—

1. Mechanized rope-manufacturing unit based on the cultivation of sunn-hemp, preferably near Sanawad
2. Manufacture of lead pencils near Barwaha
3. Manufacturing of bone-meal
4. Manufacturing of cycle parts in Barwaha, Sanawad areas
5. Manufacturing of Khandsari sugar at centres like Khetia and Thikari
6. Soap, glycerine and candles manufacturing
7. Sand, lime-bricks and blocks and tiles manufacturing at Barwaha

LABOUR AND EMPLOYERS' ORGANISATIONS

There are 10 organization of workers in the District, which are registered as trade unions, under the Trade Unions Act, 1926.

1. Bidi Kamgar Sangh at Khargone was registered on the 24th October, 1956 and had 103 members in 1965.
2. Bidi Kamgar Sangh, Sanawad was registered on 31st October, 1956 and its membership was 212 in 1965.

   Both these organizations are affiliated to the Indian National Trade Union Congress.

3. Nagar Palika Karmachari Sangh, Kasrawad is an organization of municipal employees. It was registered on 13th July, 1960, and had 16 members in 1965. It is an independent body.
4. Krishi Upaj Mandi Kamgar Sangh, Khargone, which was registered on 17th January, 1961, had 41 members in 1965. It is an independent body.

5. Krishi Upaj Mandi Dalal Mandal, Sendhwa, was registered on 2nd January, 1962 and had nine members in 1965. It is an independent body.

6. Soot Mill Mazdoor Sangh, Sanawad was registered on 27th June, 1963 and had 27 members in 1965.

7. Shaskiya Soot Mill Karmachari Union, Sanawad was registered on 26th September, 1963 and had 53 members in 1965.

8. M.P. Motor Karmachari Sangh, Barwani, was registered on 9th Jaunary, 1964 and its membership was 97 in 1965.

9. Municipal Kamgar Sangh, Mohalla Ahirwara Khargone was registered on 13th February, 1964 and had 76 members in 1965.

10. Nagar Palika Nakedar Evam Karmachari Sangh, Anjad, was registered on 21st December, 1964 and had 56 members in 1965.

There is only one employers' organization in the District, namely, Cotton Merchants' Association, Khargone. The Association was registered on 23rd December, 1961. The Association works for safeguarding the trade interest of cotton merchants.

WELFARE OF INDUSTRIAL LABOUR

After Independence the Government at the Centre have introduced substantial legislation with a view to improving the living and working conditions of labourers, especially industrial labourers. Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948, which is a Central Act has not been made applicable to the workers of Khargone District. Employees' Provident Fund Act, 1952 has been made applicable to 20 factories in the District by the year 1966.

The rates of wages under the Madhya Pradesh Minimum Wages Fixation Act 1962 fixed by the State Government in some of the Scheduled Industries like rice mills, flour mills, *dal* mills, oil mills, bidi factories, construction or maintenance of roads and buildings, stone-breaking, crushing and public motor transport, for the State as a whole, are also applicable to the workers employed in such of these industries as exist in the District.

The State Government gives annual grant-in-aid to the trade unions, *viz.*, Bidi Kamgar Sangh, Khargone and Bidi Kamgar Sangh, Sanawad for organising recreation activities such as sports, reading-rooms, libraries, *sevadal*, adult education, etc., for the workers at these centres in the District.

(In Rs.)

Name of the Union	Amount of Grant 1960-61	1961-62	1962-63	1963-64	1964-65
Bidi Kamgar Sangh, Khargone		1,500	1,000	941	1,416
Bidi Kamgar Sangh, Sanawad	1,860.60	2,000	2,000	1,560	1,935

No labour welfare centre is established in the District by the Labour Department of the State Government.

An amount of Rs. 36,000 was provided during the year 1963-64 for the construction of weavers' housing colony consisting of 10 houses at Maheshwar. As the weavers' co-operative society could not procure land for the colony during the year 1963-64 it was decided to utilize funds for the scheme for export promotion. Hence the scheme was not taken up.

CHAPTER VI

BANKING, TRADE AND COMMERCE

Indigenous Banking

West Nimar is largely an agricultural District. In the absence of large-scale industries, the life in Nimar is mainly agriculture-oriented which in itself, even after more and more emphasis on irrigation, etc., is still largely a gamble in rain. This uncertainty leads the agriculturist into the cordon of the village moneylender, *viz.*, Bania or *Sahukar* for a variety of causes, ranging from seasonal agricultural loan to marriage, litigation, etc.

The institution of moneylender is an age-old one, which for its operational flexibility has survived even the series of legal curbs and codes of regulations and behaviour, apart from competition with other Government-directed agencies of rural credit. These moneylenders are local men of means called *Sahukars*, with whom it is a normal custom of each family to maintain account. He is not only a "stand-by" when the family need seeds or money for some urgent purpose, but also serves an "Adivasi" as a patron who lends him "prestige in the society. The better-off farmers have their *Sahukars* in more than one market centres. Having more *Sahukars*, of course only implies having running accounts with more than one banker."[1] In Barwani the old Gazetteer refers to the existence of 35 local capitalists who were both bankers and merchants. Some of them operated through their agents.

The *Sahukars* serve the local credit demand both through the ready cash and through the issuance of *hundis*. The acceptance of deposits from local people is also one of the important functions of these *Sahukars*. These two characteristics, according to the Rural Credit Survey Committee report, are essentially associated with indigenous banking.

With the advent of Commercial banking institution, which was as late as 1914 when the Barwani State Bank came into being in this tract, the craft of indigenous banker began to lose importance. As the commercial banking alongwith Co-operative credit agencies made in-roads in the rural areas deeper and deeper, the age-old institution of village moneylender and *Sahukar* had to mend their abnoxious ways. They came to acquire these evil ways during the course of time. Still according to Rural Credit Survey Report the professional moneylenders

1. G.A. Aurora, Bamanta, Socio-Economic Monograph of a Tribal village 1963, p. 168.

are the major suppliers of finance in the area. In Jhabua District, an adjoining tract which is economically not much different, it is estimated that 82 per cent of the total borrowings of an average cultivating family were supplied by the professional moneylenders.

GENERAL CREDIT FACILITIES AVAILABLE

The principal agencies supplying finance in rural areas are usually the *Sahukars* or village moneylenders—some of whom also deal in *hundis*—Government, co-operatives, relatives, traders and commission agents (*arhatias*), commercial banks, etc. The systematic growth of Co-operative structure in the fabric of rural society, more so after the launching of planned development programme, and the Government finace in the shape of *taccavi* to cultivators according to the rules framed under the various acts have come to assume a formidable position now. The commercial banks, because of the organisation and method of working, mainly meet the credit demand in urban area. However, growing facilities for the advancing of loan on Warehouse Receipts by the branches of the State Bank of Indore in the District, have made themselves familiar with rural folk also. It is of interest to note that even now, notwithstanding the development of these agencies in rural areas, the *Sahukar*, professional moneylender, continues to be the sheet anchor of rural credit structure.

The contention is further confirmed by the findings of Rural Credit Survey Committee which investigated the adjoining District of Jhabua, which is similar in its social and economic structure. The Committee estimated that the Government catered for 9.7 per cent, Co-operatives 1.7 per cent and commercial banks 0 2 per cent of the average borrowing of a cultivating family of the District. However, professional moneylenders supplied as large as 82 per cent of their total borrowings.

The professional moneylender sometimes also lends seed, etc. In the beginning of the season the poor cultivators need seeds for sowing, and often grains also for household consumption. The price of seed and grain advanced is fixed at current market rates. Cash is also advanced for the purposes of purchasing bullocks, implements, etc., other things of necessities like cloth, etc., are also given in kind. In urban areas, for practically every commodity we have separate venders but this is not the case in the villages, where Mahajan stocks all kinds of articles. As reported, the rate of interest on seeds and grains advanced, is usually 25 per cent. In times of scarcity the rate of interest may go up even to 50 per cent. On other loans the rate of interest varies from 12 per cent to 15 per cent. In certain cases the moneylender insists on the mortgaging of the landed property, bullocks, jwellery, etc.

Arhatias or Commission Agents

The old renowned families who have settled down in Sanawad, Anjad, Khargone, Kasrawad, Rajpur, Khetia, Barwaha and Sendhawa since long also carry on moneylending business as a hereditary occupation apart from acting as *arhatias* or commission agents.

The practice is that the commission agents advance money to the cultivators on a promise from the cultivator that he would bring his produce to him for being disposed of. The *arhatias* after selling the produce, and making payment of commission agents recover loans alongwith interest from the cultivators.

Till the late thirties, the innocent cultivators continued to be exploited by the relentless, unscrupulous *Sahukars* through their underhand dealings and malpractices.

In order to regulate the moneylending, therefore, the State had to step in with an enactment called 'The Indore-Money-Lenders' Act No. V of 1938. This came into force from 1st July 1938. Immediately after this, rules were also framed under the said Act which were known as 'The Indore Money Lenders' Accounts and Registration Rules, 1939'. As per the Act it became necessary for money lenders to maintain accounts and supply statements thereof to the debtors. It was made obligatory on every money-lender to issue a receipt when a debtor repays the debt in full or a part thereof.

Later after the formation of Madhya Bharat State the Government enacted the Madhya Bharat Money-Lenders' Act, *Samvat* 2007 (1950 A.D.).

The number of registered moneylenders in the District from 1958 to 1964 is given below:—

Year	No. of Money-Lenders	Year	No. of Money-Lenders
1958	219	1962	305
1959	331	1963	294
1960	334	1964	276
1961	347	..	..

Indebtedness

Rai Bahadur Ram Sarup, who completed the final report on the land Revenue Settlement of Holkar State, Indore in 1929 confessed that "no reduction in the indebtedness of the tenantry is visible."[1] Borrowing in cash and kind from moneylenders came to be the highest. It was estimated that on "an average the debt per occupied acre came to Rs. 10 or Rs. 174 per tenant.[2] With a view to ameliorating the economic conditions of the rural population the State Government sanctioned the formation of a Department of Rural Development. The Settlement Officer advancing certain recommendations to relieve the tenantry from the burden of indebtedness, throws light on the causes of incurring debts. It was proposed to enact suitable laws to restrict expenditure on marriages, births and deaths, to open seed-depots, and maximum rate of interest to be charged by the *Sahukars*. We have already seen that the State in 1938 enacted the Indore

1. Holkar State Settlement Report, 1929, p. 64.
2. Ibid.

Moneylenders' Act 1938, and a year later Indore Debt Conciliation Act, 1938, was also enacted.

Writing a report on the Socio-Economic Survey of a tribal village, 'Bamanta', in 1963, G.S. Aurora observed that: "Indebtedness is the greatest scourge of the *Adivasi* economy. Borrowing is resorted to for various purposes. Heaviest borrowing is for seed, consumption comes a close second and social ceremonies a significant third. Usually the rates paid are exhorbitantly high-anywhere between 25 to 50 per cent of the loan per year. Even the poorest tribals pay a share of his staple produce to the "Bania"..........in order to pay his debts, and meet monetary obligations........... Social attitudes and customs of the indigene are largely responsible for the debt for whatever loan is taken for seed is generally repaid after harvesting the crop's.[1] It has also been observed that traders charge exhorbitant rate of interest from the *Adivasis*—ranging between 100 per cent for seeds to 25 per cent for long-term loans for marriage, etc."[2]

In the late 'thirities to ameliorate the condition of tenantry, the Indore Debt Conciliation Act (No. VI of 1939) was enacted, and subsequently rules were framed known as 'The Indore Debt Conciliation Rules, 1939.' This Act provided for the setting up of Debt Conciliation Boards in different districts of the State.

In 1945, six Debt Conciliation Boards were functioning in the District at Khargone, Bhikangaon, Barwaha, Sanawad, Sendhwa and Maheshwar. The Boards were not to entertain applications filed by the non-agriculturist debtors or those involving a debt exceeding a sum of Rs. 25,000.

Joint Stock Banks

The first bank to have been started in this District was the Bank of Barwani, the old Barwani State which constitutes a Tahsil of West Nimar. This bank was started in 1914-15. Some of its shares were subscribed by the public as well, but in 1921-22 all the share capital was acquired by the State. By 1918-19, it had firm foundation and won the general confidence of the people. The working capital reached a very satisfactory level, and numerous loans varying from petty to large sums were advanced to cultivators, tradesmen and other needy persons at a very moderate rate of interest. "To the first named, *viz.*, cultivators alone as huge a sum as Rs. 80,000 was advanced, and the realization of the old loans was altogether suspended to help them to relieve themselves of the acute pinch of distress, and to keep them immune from the claws of the usurious *Sahukars*, whom they would have undoubtedly the resorted in the absence of the Departments coming forward to extend the supporting hand. The Department thus proved a great boon to the above-mentioned classes of people and was highly appreciated by them."[3]

The State investment in the capital of this Bank was Rs. 65,855 while the fixed and floating deposits were Rs. 1,18,713 and Rs. 4,25,885, respectively. The

1. G.S. Aurora, op. cit., pp. 142-44.
2. Ibid.
3. Barwani State Administration Report, 1918-19, p. 59.

Cash in hand was Rs. 6,223. Profit in year ending 1948 amounted to Rs. 29,000. The loans to the extent of Rs. 3,18,024 to non-cultivators and Rs. 2,24,725 to cultivators were given according to statement ending 31st August, 1948, on security of immovable property. Once there was a proposal to amalgamate this Bank with the Central Co-operative Bank, established in Barwani State in 1949. This proposal could not materialise, and finally the Bank was brought under liquidation in the year 1955.

In 1920, the *Gyara Panchas*[1] made a request to the then Indore State to start a bank with a capital of rupees one crore. Thus, on the recommendation of the *Gyara Panchas*, the Bank of Indore was started in 1920, with an authorised capital of rupees one crore. The Indore State gave the Bank monopoly for 10 years and certain concessions, and also subscribed to the share capital of the Bank. The same Bank is now known as 'State Bank of Indore'.[2] The branches of this Bank were established in West Nimar District as given below:—

Name of the Place	Year Of Establishment
Sanawad	1929
Khargone	1945
Anjad	1950
Sendhwa	1953
Barwaha	1960

The rates of interest allowed by the State Bank of Indore on different kinds of deposits vary from 1½ per cent to 7 per cent and from 8 per cent to 11 per cent on advances given by the Bank.

Volume of Business

There has been a rising trend in the volume of business from the year 1960 to 1964. The consolidated figures of advances and deposits for all the branches of the State Bank of Indore, situated in the District, are given below :—

Year	(Rupees In Lakhs)
1960	142.84
1961	139.26
1962	168.01
1963	231.88
1964	251.92

Thus, we see that there has been an overall rise of 76.3 per cent, when the figures of volume of business of 1960 are compared with those of 1964.

1. This was the institution named as *Gyara Panchas* (Eleven Notables of Indore). It was doing very useful work as an adviser to different commercial agencies like Silver Brokers' Association, Bullion Exchange, Grain Market Committees and it used to work as the final Arbitration Board to settle disputes among merchants. The decision of *Gyara Panchas* was held in high esteem and was, therefore, easily accepted.
2. The Bank of Indore Ltd., re-constituted under the State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks) Act, 1959, took over the assets and liabilities of the former bank, and started functioning as on 1st January, 1960.

The gross and net collections during the year 1963-64 under different small savings schemes are given below :—

	Gross Rs.	Net Rs.
Post-Office Savings Bank	10,31,961	1,63,412
National Defence Certificates	1,40,910	53,322
Cumulative Time Deposits	42,153	41,108
Prize Bonds (Approximate)	—	15,165

Defence Efforts

The sum of Rs. 18,03,708 was collected in the District up till 20th April, 1963, under the National Defence efforts. This also included the cheque of Rs. 1,07,000 given to the late Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru towards the cost of a helicopter, and also a cheque of Rs. 25,000 towards the cost of an ambulance van.

Gold to the tune of 12,340.182 grams was also collected in the District for the defence purposes during the same period.

Warehousing Corporation

Madhya Pradesh Warehousing Corporation was established in the year 1958 with headquarters temporarily at Indore under the Agricultural Produce (Development and Warehousing) Corporations Act, 1956. This placed an additional facility within the reach of the cultivators who could not only use them for storage but also on the strength of warehouse receipt raise loans and advances on easy terms. In November, 1958, a warehouse was established at Khargone and yet another at Sendhwa in February, 1951. The procedure for taking loans is quite simple. The agriculturists who deposit their surplus produce at the warehouse have to pay a small fee which also includes the insurance charges against fire and accident. Against the deposit, the agriculturists get receipt which is called the 'Warehouse Receipt'. This receipt could then be produced before the branch of the State Bank, or any Scheduled or authorised bank in order to get loan, for which they have to fill-in an application. The agriculturists get the loan from 60 per cent to 75 per cent of the total cost of the goods at a comparatively low rate of interest ranging from 5½ per cent to 7 per cent.

The figures of the deposits for the year from 1961-62 to 1963-64 are given below for Khargone and Sendhwa Warehouses:—

Quarter ending	Deposits in qts.		
	1961-62	1962-63	1963-64
June	105	348	80
September	18	27	46
December	269	634	402
March	1894	302	369

(Note:—The figures for quarter ending September, 1961-62, and figures for quarter ending June and September, 1963-64 are only for Khargone Warehouse).

The trading community is quick to take the advantage of these warehouses but the farmers are not coming up, owing perhaps to their ignorance.

Co-operative Credit Societies and Banks

The advent of co-operative movement in Indore State was marked with the promulgation of the Indore Co-operative Societies Act, 1914. The movement was encouraged by the State, and soon after the passing of the above Act, it became popular in this District also with the help of the prominent public workers. A Co-operative Central Bank was established at Maheshwar in the year 1918, and in the very first year, 10 primary societies were established through which advances were made available to agriculturists. The Bank also advanced directly to individuals.

But during the 'fifties, the Bank could not function satisfactorily, and ultimately in 1959 was brought under liquidation.

Another Central Co-operative Bank came into being at Sanawad in the year 1919, with its area of operation extending over to Barwaha, and a part of Bhikangaon Tahsil. The Bank made advances to the agriculturists through the primary credit societies affiliated to it. Direct advances were also made in some cases.

The Indore Premier Co-operative Bank, which had its head-office at Indore, also opened its branches at Bhikangaon in 1927, Segaon in 1930, Khargone in 1932, and Sendhwa in 1936. The branch at Segaon was subsequently closed in 1947, and business was transferred to Khargone branch.

In the Barwani tract, as the Barwani State Bank could not meet the demand of agriculturists in the State, a co-operative bank was organised in the year 1949. Efforts of certain selfless social workers in the past, and the co-operation from the public, placed it soon on a sound footing.

In the beginning of the co-operative movement in this District, people who were mostly illiterate could not realise the merits of the movement, and as such opposed it. Moneylenders seeing their importance liquidating with the spread of this movement, also joined the opposition. But gradually the movement gained the public favour and momentum in due course of time and by 1962-63 there were 942 different types of co-operative societies in the District, covering 60 per cent villages and 32 per cent of the population.

The progress of the co-operative movement (other than agricultural credit) during the year 1962-63 and 1963-64 is given in the following table:—

Particulars	Number	
	1962-63	1963-64
Co-operative Central Banks	3	3
Multipurpose Societies (doing credit business)	33	51

Large-size Societies	25	25
Consumers' Stores	11	12
Marketing Societies	7	7
Farming Societies	7	15
Urban Credit Societies	9	10
Weavers' Societies	33	35
Oil-Grinding Societies	16	16
Other Societies (Non-credit)	13	15

There are three co-operative central banks namely, Barwani Co-operative Central Bank Ltd. Barwani, Sanawad Co-operative Central Bank Ltd., Sanawad, and West Nimar Co-operative Central Bank Ltd., Khargone. Apart from these, the Co-operative Land Mortgage Bank Ltd., Khargone, is also functioning in the District.

The total deposits of these central banks increased from Rs. 35.15 lakhs in 1962-63 to Rs. 53.64 lakhs in 1963-64. Similarly, the borrowings of these banks also increased from Rs. 52.57 lakhs to Rs. 87.74 lakhs during the same period. These co-operative Banks advanced loans to the tune of Rs. 94.83 lakhs during the year 1962-63, and Rs. 171.56 lakhs in 1963-64.

Barwani Co-operative Central Bank Ltd., Barwani

Established in the year 1949, the area of operation of this Bank now extends to Barwani, Rajpur and Sendhwa Tahsils of West Nimar. Apart from this, a branch of the Indore Premier Co-operative Bank Ltd., Indore, was also functioning at Sendhwa which continued its business up to 1st October, 1961. According to the scheme drawn up for the organisation of Co-operative Central Bank Ltd., Barwani, the assets and liabilities of the Sendhwa branch of the Indore Premier Co-operative Bank Ltd., Indore, were transferred to the Barwani Co-operative Central Bank. Consequently, the former Bank ceased functioning as an associate unit. The Barwani Bank, since its advent made good progress, and its business has expanded manifold. Total membership of the Bank is 357, of which 108 are individuals and 249 societies. On account of good management and spontaneous response received by the Bank from the cultivators it has grown into a formidable financial unit. The State Government have also contributed Rs. 2,10,000 towards the share capital of the Bank.

West Nimar Co-operative Central Bank Ltd., Khargone

Registered on 9th March, 1961, the Bank came to be organised at the headquarters of the District. The area of operation of this Bank now extends to five tahsils, *viz.*, Khargone, Bhikangaon, Kasrawad, Maheshwar and Barwaha. In July 1961, this Bank took over the branches of the Indore Premier Co-operative Bank Ltd., Indore, functioning at Khargone, and Bhikangaon.

The Bank has three branches one each at Bhikangaon, Kasrawad, and Maheshwar. Total membership of the Bank is 273, out of which 209 are co-operative societies and 64 individuals. During the short span of its existence, this bank has gained considerable business. State Government have also contributed Rs. One lakh towards its share capital.

Sanawad Co-operative Central Bank Ltd.

Established in the year 1919, the Sanawad Co-operative Central Bank Ltd., Sanawad, is the oldest of its kind in the District. The area of operation of this Bank extends to Barwaha and Maheshwar Tahsils of the District. Total membership of the Bank is 319, out of which 90 are societies and the rest individuals. Being an uneconomic unit, and generally not conforming to the requirements of the Reserve Bank of India, there was a move to amalgamate it with West Nimar Co-operative Central Bank Ltd., Khargone but it was functioning in the year 1964-65.

The West Nimar Co-operative Land Mortgage Bank Ltd., Khargone

Registered on 8th April 1962, the Bank started functioning from 1st May, 1962. There was a good response from the cultivators, and an amount of Rs. 43,595 was collected towards the share-capital. Till 31st August, 1962, the Bank received 121 loan applications involving an amount of Rs. 3,55,400.

Staff subsidy of Rs. 3,500 was allotted to the Bank during the year 1961-62.

GENERAL AND LIFE INSURANCE

It was in 1924 that the then Holkar State enacted the Holkar State Life Insurance Act, 1924, which came in force in the same year. All the Government servants holding pensionable posts were eligible for insurance. It was made compulsory for all persons entering into Government service after 25th August, 1924. The provisions of the Act also covered a part of West Nimar, since it formed a District of the Holkar State then.

Till the year 1963 there was no independent life insurance or general insurance company office in West Nimar. However, the agents of Life Insurance Corporation were doing some business in Khargone, and in other important places in the District. But in that year a development centre under Assistant Branch Manager was opened by the Life Insurance Corporation of Khargone. The following Table gives the figures of business completed during the years from 1962-63 to 1965-66.—

Year	Business completed (in lakh Rs.)
1962-63	64.67
1963-64	55.06
1964-65	42.62
1965-66	44.21

(Note: 1962-63 figures are for a period of 15 months, i.e. from January, 1962, to March, 1963)

The Life Insurance Corporation of India has now also undertaken fire, marine and other general insurance business with effect from 1st April, 1964. During the year 1964-65 the Corporation completed general Insurance business with a premium income of Rs. 18,310 from West Nimar. Further a combined premium income of Rs. 2,88,390 was received from East and West Nimar District during the year 1965-66.

STATE ASSISTANCE TO INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

The State finances the industries directly under the State Aid to Industries Act, 1958, and some State assistance has been granted to the oil and some other industries in the District. Below are given the figures of the assistance given by the Department of Industries to the small industries in West Nimar during the last seven years.—

Year	Assistance (loan in Rs.)
1957-58	9,300
1958-59	1,20,750
1959-60	34,000
1960-61	3,400
1961-62	1,00,000
1962-63	79,892
1963-64	61,765

Assistance to industries is also being given by six All India Boards, i.e. All India Khadi and Village Industries Board, The Hand-Loom Board, The Silk Board, The Handicrafts Board, The Small Scale Industries Board and Coir Board through co-operative societies and sometimes even directly.

It was decided by the State Government to establish Spinning Mills with an initial capacity of 12,500 spindles in the public sector to help the handloom weavers of the State in procuring yarn at a cheaper rate and in adequate quantity. It was located at Sanawad, and production started in the year 1964. Capital investment on the project was of the order of Rs. 63 lakhs.

The Madhya Pradesh Financial Corporation disbursed loans amounting to Rs. 4,50,000 in West Nimar District up to 1962-63. During the year 1963-64, no loans were given to the industrial units situated in West Nimar.

CURRENCY AND COINAGE

Most of the portion of West Nimar constituted a part of the erstwhile Holkar State till recently. Hence the history of coinage and Currency of the area remained closely related to that of Holkar State.

The earliest reference to Holkar's coins has been found to be in connection with the Panipat Campaign of 1761, when the high price of food having exhausted

the money in Sadashiv Rao's Treasury, he along with Sindhia and Holkar, erected mints in the camp. After melting down gold and silver ornaments, a quantity of rupees was coined which was stamped with the words *Bhaushahi*, *Jankoshahi* and *Malharshahi*, and gave them temporary currency which did not, however, last for more than a fortnight.[1] There were then two mints in the Holkar State one at Indore (Malharnagar) and the other at Maheshwar. The local tradition was that in the latter mint only such coins were struck as were intended by Ahilya Bai to be spent on religious and charitable purposes, their distinctive mark being the trifoliate bilwa leaf, which is held sacred to God Siva. There is no record of Maheswar mint coinage after 1832-33. In 1902 the minting of coins in the State came to be suspended for 50 years, and an agreement with the Government of India postulated the consent of the latter to future coinage of silver by the State. The *halli-sicca* was abolished and in its place British Indian currency became legal tender in the State, alongwith the copper coins previously issued from the Indore mint.[2]

Decimal Coinage

The decimal coinage and new currency, which has been introduced in India from April, 1957 is steadily gaining ground. At present, though the prices are often quoted in old currency, specially in rural areas, the decimal currency is fast becoming popular. This system has further been assisted by the introduction of the Metric System of Weights and Measures in this District, and the use of which has been made compulsory.

TRADE AND COMMERCE

Course of Trade

Separate figures regarding imports and exports of West Nimar are not available because largely it constituted only a part of the then Holkar State. But the figures are available for the then Barwani State, which now forms a part of the District, and one can have some general idea about the trade in this region during the period.

C.E. Luard in 1908 noted that "The improtation of grain from foreign territories has been marked since the famine of 1897. Previous to this very little grain was imported into the State. The import of kerosine oil has increased rapidly, being found cheaper and better than vegetable oils. Formerly, coarse, local *khadi* cloth and *jagannathi* were generally used for coats and *paijamas*, but now imported cloths are used in large quantities. The merchants deal directly with Bombay. The chief articles imported directly from Bombay are cloth, *gur*, sugar, spices, coconut, cotton-thread, kerosine oil, match-boxes, groceries, silver and gold, which are sent by trains as far as the Nardana and Dondaycha stations on the Tapti Valley Railway on the one side, and Mhow station on the Rajputana-Malwa Railway, on the other, and thence in carts. Cotton is exported

1. C.A. Kincaid, History of the Maratha People, Vol. II, p. 68.
2. Indore State Gazetteer, 1931, pp. 290-91.

directly by some merchants to Bombay. *Ghi*, *rosa*-oil, *tilli*-oil, are also exported to a certain extent. The retaildealers in cloth, always attend the different village markets on the market days during the week and dispose of their goods. They go to the central village for one or two days during the week in order to purchase goods and to settle their accounts. Thus a retial dealer of Barwani attends the Barwani market on Sunday and he goes to Anjad, Palsud, Silawad and Pati markets on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, respectively. He then returns to Barwani at about noon of Friday and settles his accounts on Saturday, and again resumes the work on Sunday. The same routine is followed all through the year by the retail dealers in different parts of the State".[1]

From the above extract it is clear that once Barwani was a trading centre and many articles like cloth, sugar, cotton-thread, kerosene oil, etc., were imported while articles like *ghi*, *till*-oil etc., were exported from the then State.

A report regarding the trade of the then Barwani State for 1913-14 supports the existence of the commercial activities. Cotton specially fetched good prices. But the same report has also recorded that the backwardness in trade was due mainly to its being not connected with any railway line.[2]

A similar report written during the First World War (1914-18) records a fall in the trade and commerce during the year 1918-19, and assigned the reason of the same to its being not connected with any railway line.[3]

There is not much difference in the present situation of the District from that existing some years back. Cultivators bring their produce to *mandis* and there the goods are sold to traders through commission agents. The traders are generally agents of big merchants at Indore and other places Goods are sent to Indore and even to Bombay. Transactions with up-country markets are meagres.

From the information collected from the municipalities of a few important towns in the District it is gathered that chief imports in the region are of *kirana*, foods, tea. cloth, bidis, oilseeds, sugar, machinery, etc. The following Table shows the extent of imports of important town of the District.—

Imports 1964-65.

Commodities imported		Bhikangaon	Barwani	Anjad	Khargone
Kirana	(,000 Rs.)	137	42	256	1158
Tea	,,	45	..	98	..
Bidi/Cig.	,,	148	..	..	427
Cloths	,,	437	..	1086	2263
Sugar	,,	..	..	217	665
Groundnut	(,000 Mds)	24	..	..	..

1. Barwani State Gazetteer, 1908, pp. 21-22.
2. Barwani State Administration Report, 1913-14, p. 16.
3. Ibid., 1918-19, p. 19.

Grains	,,	39	22	..	..
Cotton	(Carts)	101	—	..	..
Fruits	('000 Rs.)	..	104	..	..
Ghee pure	,,	..	20	..	—
Oils	,,	..	..	301	..
Machinery	,,	..	..	118	..
Medicines	,,	..	..	83	594
Gur	,,	..	..	256	943
Iron material	,,	..	—	..	1222

TRADE CENTRES

Interesting account about the marketing activities is contained in the Barwani State Gazetteer an extract from which is given below:—

"The chief centre of grain trade is Palsud which is situated in the Silawad *Pargana*. The principal towns where markets are held are Barwani, Rajpur, Anjad, Silawad, Palsud, Khetia and Pansemal. The markets at all these places are held on fixed days, the average attendance varying from 1,000 to 2,000 persons. The markets are chiefly distributing centres. Banias and Boharas and a few other castes are the chief sellers; they are generally owners of their shops and are mostly local men, while the principal buyers are mostly cultivators from the surrounding villages. The Banias and Boharas generally purchase direct from cultivators. Lately, cultivators have commenced taking their goods personally to Khandesh, Mhow and other places where they dispose it of themselves and import other necessary articles on their return, thus securing the profit that formerly went into the pockets of the Banias. Most transactions are carried on in cash, but in some places cultivators give grain and jungle produce in exchange for salt, *gur*, etc."[1]

Regulated Markets

There are seven regulated markets in the District, which are also centres of wholesale business. These are situated at Khargone, Sanawad, Bhikangaon, Sendhwa, Khetia, Anjad and Barwaha.

The detailed information in connection with the commodities dealt in alongwith figures of arrivals in the markets in 1963-64 are given in the Appendix—A.

From the commercial point of view all the commodities shown there in are important. From the arrivals one can have an idea that cotton enjoys the important place closely followed by ground-nut, jowar, wheat, gram, etc.

1. Barwani State Gazetteer, 1908, p. 20.

Retail Marketing Centre

Besides the markets stated above, the weekly retail market or village *hat* is the characteristic feature of our rural economy. These markets assist the villagers who can not go far to big mandis or towns for their daily requirements. There are in all 105 such retail marketing centres in the District. Their number in Tahsil-wise break-up is given below:—

Name of Tahsil	Number of weekly markets held
Khargone	30
Bhikangaon	17
Sendhwa	13
Rajpur	13
Kasarawad	10
Barwaha	8
Maheshwar	7
Barwani	7

On account of the opening of new roads, facilating transport of goods facilities and general enlightenment among the cultivators, new weekly marketing centres are being organised every year. The commodities marketed at these marketing centres are usually food grains, vegetables, seasonal fruits, consumer goods such as sugar, oil, salt *gur*, spices, tobacco, etc. In the markets which are nearer to tribal areas, honey, gum and *chironji* also come for sale. In Gogaon, Bistan, and Temla, cattle business is also done.

Melas

The cultivators generally prefer to make their purchases in *melas* which are occasionally held at important centres after the harvesting season. Whatever may the reason for which they are held it cannot be denied that they have great commercial value, and usually it turns out to be a meeting place of businessmen, transacting brisk business.

In this District in all 41 *melas* are held. The Tahsil-wise break-up is given below.—

Name of Tahsil	No. of *Melas*
Khargone	10
Bhikangaon	7
Rajpur	5
Sendhwa	6
Barwaha	4
Barwani	3
Maheshwar	3
Kasarawad	3

The details regarding the melas may be seen in the Appendix, Table.

Co-operative Marketing

In this District co-operative marketing is of recent origin. Co-operative Marketing Society Ltd., Bhikangaon, was the first to be established in the year 1956. Subsequently other marketing societies were also established at Barwaha and Anjad in 1958, Sendhwa, in 1959 and Khetia in 1961. A co-operative marketing society was organised at Sanawad in the year 1962. Thus, seven marketing societies are functioning in the District.

Bhikangaon Co-operative Marketing Society Ltd., Bhikangaon, is the distributor of fertilizers in the District. The marketing societies at Sendhwa and Khetia have marketed agriculture produce to the tune of, approximately Rs. six lakhs.

Besides this, Co-operative Multi-purpose Society at Nagajhiri, Khargone, and Pansemal Multi-Purpose Co-operative Society Ltd., Pansemal, have also marketed the produce of their members valuing over Rs. 10 lakhs.

Consumers' Co-operatives

A number of co-operative stores were organised at various urban and village centres during the period of controls, they did remarkable work in providing the rationed commodities to the people at controlled rates. Most of them became defunct after the abolition of controls. Co-operative Stores at Khargone, Maheshwar, and Nagajhiri are, however, still functioning. It is felt that price stabilisation and regular supply of articles can only be maintained in the present crisis through these stores.

Multipurpose co-operative societies at Niwali, Khetia, Sendhwa and Bham are also providing, besides credit, articles of daily necessities to the people.

STATE TRADING

From time to time with a view to checking the increasing prices of food grains, etc., and to provide to the people the essential commodities on reasonable prices, the State Government established Fair Price Shops in West Nimar also as elsewhere in the State. The number of the fair price shops as in December, 1961 is given below:—

Tahsil	No. of Fair Price Shops.	
	Urban	Rural
Khargone	10	40
Kasrawad	2	15
Maheshwar	7	16
Barwaha	11	27
Sendhwa	7	13
Bhikangaon	2	23
Rajpur	3	16
Barwani	5	17

MERCHANTS' AND CONSUMERS' ASSOCIATIONS

Following are some merchants' and labour organisations in the District. Out of these only two are registered while the rest, unregistered.—

Name of the Association	Registration Number	No. of Members
Merchants' Associations		
Singdana Merchants Association, Khargone	No. 303/1965	35
Kirana Merchants Association, Khargone	Unregistered	—
Cloth Merchants Association, Khargone	—do—	—
Sarafa Association, Khargone	—do—	—
Loha Vyapari Association, Khargone	—do—	—
Mishthan Vikreta Sangh, Khargone	—do—	—
Labour Organisations		
Bidi Kamgar Sangh, Khargone	240/1965	—
Washermen's Association, Khargone	Unregistered	100
Bidi Kamgar Sangh, Sanawad	—do—	212
Nagarpalika Karmachari Sangh, Sendhwa	—do—	49
Nagarpalika Karmachari Sangh, Aujad	—do—	71

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

No separate account of weights and measures that were used in Khargone District (as at present) is available, since most of it formed the part of the Holkar State. The weights that were prevalent in Holkar State were also in use in most of the part of this District. In the then Barwani State, since merged into West Nimar, the following weights, etc., were in use.

Metal Weights.

One Maund	= 40 Seers (80 lbs.)
One *Adhman*	= 20 ,,
One *Dasseri*	= 10 ,,
One *Paseri or dhari*	= 5 ,,
One *Dhaiseri*	= 2½ ,,
One *Sawaseri*	= 1¼ ,,
One *Seer*	= 80 *Kaldar* (Rupees)
One *Achher, adhseer*	= 40 ,,
One *Paoser*	= 20 ,,
One *Atpao*	= 10 ,,
One *Chhatak*	= 5 ,,
One *Adhchhatak*	= 2½ ,,

For the articles of bulk like grams, etc., the weights as *Chauki*, *Kangan Paili* were in use. The details regarding these are given below:—

One *Chauki*	= 40 Seers.
One *Kangan*	= 1 Seer measures.
One *Tuli*	= ¼ ,,

One *Ticha*	=	¼ Seer Measures.
One *Mula*	=	⅛ ,,
16 *Chaukis*	=	1 Maund.
12 Maunds	=	1 Mani.
One *Paili*	=	3¼ Seers.
One *Maund*	=	20 *Pailis*.
One *Khandi*	=	20 Maunds.

In most of the part that was under the Holkar Rule, different types of weights were used for weighing the commodities. An extract from the Indore State Gazetteer in this connection is given below:--

"Precious stones such as diamonds, emeralds, etc., are weighed by the following standards :

5 Full-sized linseed or	=	1 *Paoratti alsi*
2 *Pao-rattis*.	=	1 *Adhi Ratti*
2 *Adhi-ratti*	=	1 *Ratti*
24 *Rattis*	=	1 *Tank*

The weights are usually made either of agate or cornelian, highly polished, and of conical shape.

"Pearls are weighed like diamonds but valued according to *chao*, into which *rattis* are converted.

"Precious metals such as gold and silver are weighed by *gunja*, *masha* and *tolas* and in large quantities by seers and maunds like copper, brass, etc.

"The most common measures used are the *hat* (cubit) of 21 inches; *gaz* or *war* (yard); and *adhawar* (half yard). The *hat* and *gaz* are sub-divided into *girah*.

1½ *Tasu*	=	1 *Girah*.
8 *Girah* } 12 Tasu }	=	1 *Hat* (cubit)
2 *Hats*	=	1 *Gaz*.

"The English yard is, however, commonly used now-a-days. Silk-cloth and valuable cloth such as men's waist-cloths, dhotis, women's wearing robes (*lugras* and *saris*), and the coarse country cloth, *khadi*, etc., are sold by the *hat* or cubit, and all other cloth by the yard.

"Cloth manufactured to meet special requirements such as saris, *lugras*, dhotis, *muktas*, etc., are sold in entire pieces.

"*Kambals*, *pattadas* and piece-goods (*thanas*) are sold wholesale to purchasers by number; the unit in the first two cases being a *kori* or score, the last being sold singly.

"The measures in common use consist of an iron bar, less than half an inch in width and marked with sub-divisions.

"In surveying land the *bigha* is the unit, but the acre is now generally used in revenue records.

20 *Kachwansi*	= 1 *Biswansi.*
20 *Biswansi*	= 1 *Biswa.*
20 *Biswas*	= 1 *Bigha* or 5/8 of an acre.

"Bomboo-matting is sold either by the square-cubit or foot and slabs, and planks by square foot.

"This measure is invariably used in measuring land, and in work done by the Public Works Department, such as painting, plastering, paving, colouring, white-washing, celling, roofing, etc.

"Measures used in measuring grain and liquids were :—

5 Rupees weight	= 1 *Chhatak.*
4 *Chhataks*	= 1 *Pao.*
4 *Paos*	= 1 Seer or 80 rupees weight of British coin.
2½ Seers	= 1 *Panseri.*
2 *Panseris*	= 1 *Dhari* or 5 seers.
8 *Dharis*	= 1 Maund.
6 *Maunds*	= 1 *Mani.*
100 *Manis*	= 1 *Manasa.*
100 *Manasa*	= 1 *Kanasa.*

"There is no dry measure of capacity in the Malwa Division. But in Nimar all grain and even the ground-nut sold by measure, the Table being:—

Mulia	= *Adhpao.*
Tichia	= *Paoseer.*
Tuli	= *Adhseer*
Kangaon	= 1 *Seer.*
Chauki	= 4 *Seers.*
16 *Chaukis*	= 1 *Maund.*
12 *Maunds*	= 1 *Mani.*

"A *Chauki* is the measure of capacity which will exactly contain four *pakka* seers weight of the grain *mung* or *jowar.*

"Milk, *ghi*, and country oil are for convenience sake sold by measures, but these measures are based on the standard weight of the ordinary seer. Kerosene oil and liquor are sold by bottles measuring quart, pint, half-pint and the lower quantities by small measures."[1]

1. Indore State Gazetteer, 1908, Vol. II, pp. 128-29.

Present Position

Prior to introduction of Metric System the Madhya Bharat Weights Act, 1954 (No. 21 of 1954) was in force in this District. Accordingly the standard weight was the same as declared under the Indian Standard of Weights Act, 1939 (No. 9 of 1939).

Thus, the standard weight was a 'Seer' with its multiples and sub-multiple being 'Maund' and 'tola'. The standard '*Tola*' being the weight of 180 standard grains and 'Maund' being the weight of 40 standard 'Seers'.

So far as the capacity measures are concerned there was no separate legislation enacted by the then Madhya Bharat Government on the subject. However, the Imperial Gallon was the standard of capacity measures. Only a few items such as, petrol and the petroleum products, and similar other articles were sold with the standard of capacity measures, the rest of the liquid items such as sweet oil, coconut oil, milk, etc, were sold with capacity measures standardised in terms of weight.

With a view to having standard and uniform system of weights and measures throughout the State, the Metric system of weights and measures was in this District from 1st April, 1960. The use of metric weights was made compulsory from 1st April, 1962. Therefore, the capacity measures were introduced from 1st April 1962, with a transitional period of one year. These have become compulsory in this District from 1st April, 1963.

The metric linear measures were introduced in this District from 1st October, 1961, with a transitional period of one year. The use of these metric linear measures have become compulsory from 1st October, 1962. Further, the unit of volume, i. e., 'cubic metre' and the primary unit of area, i. e., 'square metre' were introduced from 1st October, 1962, with a transitional period of 6 months, and have become compulsory from 1st April, 1963. Thus Metric System has been fully introduced in this District from 1st April, 1963.

CHAPTER VII

COMMUNICATIONS

Old Time Trade Routes and Highways

The River Narmada, one of the most sacred in India, runs in the District from East to West and on its banks are situated ancient holy places like Mandleshwar, Maheshwar, Sahastra Dhara, Khalghat, etc Pilgrims from every nook and corner of India used to visit these holy places. They attended the religious fairs and took a dip in the sacred waters of the river and its tributaries. There are proofs of religious congregations and sacrifices being held on the banks of this river. There must have existed some ancient hilly tracks and other routes through the Vindhya and Satpura ranges to reach the above-mentioned sacred places. These routes were primarily intended for pedestrians rather than the transhipment of goods for the economic uplift of the people. Gradually with the march of the time and civilisation, modern roads must have been aligned on the existing ancient routes considering them as the shortest approach after making required modifications to suit present conditions of traffic. The present Jamghat-Bagdara road is one of such ancient routes connecting Nimar with the plateau of Malwa.

"In Buddhist days a main trade route, which went from Paithana to Sravasti (Sahet-Mahet in the Gonda District of the erstwhile United Provinces) traversed the district with a halting stage at Mahismati now Maheshwar, the next important stage being Ujjain.[1] Sutta Nipata describes the itinerary of hermits going to Mahisatti.

"Alberuni writing in eleventh century, states that he travelled from Dhar southwards to Mahumuhra (Maheshwar), and from there to Kundaki or Konzouhou (Khandwa) and Namawar (Nemawar) on the banks of the Narbada."

"Cunningham has identified the Mahismati or Maheswarpura of the Chinese pilgrim Hiuen Tsiang with Mandla in the Central Provinces, but almost certainly or insufficient evidence.[2] Hiuen Tsiang states that he went from Jajhoti or Bundelkhand north or north-east to Maheshwarpura, which is a wrong bearing either for Mandla or Maheshwar. He, moreover, describes the country and people as being similar to the country and people as being similar to the

1. Indore State Gazetteer, 1931, p. 221.
2. Cunningham's Ancient Geography of India, p. 559.

country and people of Ujjain, and notes the existence of the same sect, the Pasupatas, a description which agrees with the country round Maheshwar, but not with that round Mandla in Central Provinces. He continues, that from Maheshwarpura he went in a "backward direction" to the country of Gurjjara (Gujarat)[1]. Numerous places, which the Mahishmati Mahatmya enjoins pilgrims to visit can be indentified in the neighbourhood". The old Buddhist books, moreover, mention it as one of the regular stages on the route from Paithana in the Deccan to Sravasti in Nepal while the Maha Bharat mentions it as lying on the road to the south[2].

"In Mughal days the royal road from the Deccan passed through the Nimar District. The stages between Bijapur and Ujjain were Bhikangaon (21°52′ N-75°58′E), Gogaon (21°53′ N-75°45′E), Akbarpur (22°9′ N-75°31′E) (where the Narbada was crossed a little east of the present Khalghat ford), Jahangir Nagar, Nimkhera (22°26′ N-75°14′E), Dikthan (22°35′N-75°32′E) Fatehabad (23°2′N 75°43′E) and Ujjain (23°11′E-75°47′E)"[3].

The oldest modern road traversing through this District is the Agra-Bombay Road, constructed between 1835-1860. It passes through the District for 63 miles (101.39 Km.), the important places on the road being Sendhwa, Julwania, Khalghat, etc.

During the year 1846-47 work for making a cart-road from Burwaha to Omkar Mandhata was commenced. "Another work of improvement in this year remains to be noticed is the making of a cart road from Burwaye (on the North Bank of the river) to Omkar Mandhata a place resorted to by the Hindus from all parts of India and where a great fair is held every year in November, besides three minor ones. The operations at first were very small indeed, not extending beyond cutting and clearing a road through the jungle but great success has attained the undertaking and the result will be, a very great eventual benefit to Nimar for the funds raised by subscription are sufficient, not only to carry out the views of the subscribers, but to make the various clearance approaches, wells etc., all of value from a commercial point of view and of moment to the province, being on the high road from Khandesh which passes from Boorhanpur through Aseergurh to Malwa via Burwaye"[4].

Old Time Modes of Conveyance

The commonest vehicles used in old times were the bullock-carts. The carts in common use were of two types one having solid rim and the other-spoked wheels the frame consisting in each case of wood and bamboo. In towns, horse and pony carriages with springs made their appearance later on.[5]

1. Samuel Beal, Travels of Hiouen Tsiang, Vol. IV, p. 461.
2. Indore State Gazetteer, 1931, pp. 623-24.
3. Ibid., p. 221.
4. Report on the Province of Nimar, 1856, pp. 31-32.
5. Imperial Gazetteer of India, 1908, Vol. IX, p. 372.

ROAD TRANSPORT

History of Road Construction

The construction of roads which were the most important means of transport in the District, gained momentum with the dawn of the 20th century.

During the year 1902-03,[1] the following works of communication were maintained and constructed in the District:

1. Maheshwar-Khalghat Road.
2. Barwaha-Maheshwar Road-Estimates for construction Rs. 59,252-outlay for the year Rs. 11,579.
3. Mandleshwar-Khargone Road-Estimates for construction Rs. 1,58,500 outlay for the year-Rs. 22,121.

During the year a survey was made of Maheshwar-Khalghat Road and estimates were prepared.

In 1906-07[2] the following work was done:

1. Construction of bridges and culverts on Barwaha-Maheshwar Road. The total length of the road planned was 31.10 miles (49.89 Km.) and during the year total expenditure incurred was Rs. 25,775.
2. Construction of Khargone-Mandleshwar Road of the total length 26.0 miles (41.84 Km.). On this road the total expenditure during the year amounted to Rs. 47,322.
3. Constructing Khargone-Gugriakheri-Bhamnala road of the length 16.50 miles (26.55 Km.). On this the expenditure was of Rs. 1,70,607 was during the year.
4. Construction of Gugriakheri-Mohammadpur Road. The total expenditure over this road was Rs. 30,507 of length 4.00 miles (6.44 Km.). This road was completed and an amount of Rs. 30,507 was spent during the year.
5. Metalling of Khargone Oon Road of 10.00 miles (16.09 Km.). This road was originally unmetalled and it was taken up for metalling.
6. Maintenance of Khargone-Sanawad road of total length 42.00 miles (67.59 Km.). On this an expenditure of Rs. 24,064 was incurred during the year.

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1. Holkar State Administration Report, 1902-03, p. 28.
2. Ibid., 1906, Appendix XXIV.

7. Construction of a Municipal road through Sanawad town. The total length of this road was 2,618 feet and it was completed during the year at a cost of Rs. 3,272 only.

During the period 1910-20[1] the following road was constructed in the District.

1. Khargone-Oon Road

Its total length in the District was 10.0 miles (16.09 Km.) and it connects the District headquarters with the town of Oon. It was constructed in 1914. Its cost of construction was Rs. 3,05,907.

The total tength of roads in the District at the end of December[2], 1920, was 151.62 miles (243,99 Km.) and the principal roads in existence in the District were[3] the foliowing.—

S. No.	Name of Road	Length
1.	Burwaha-Mandleshwar-Maheshwar	30.50 miles (49.09 Km.)
2.	Mandleshwar-Khargone	26.12 miles (42.04 Km.)
3.	Khargone-Desgaon	37.37 miles (60.14 Km.)
4.	Khargone-Sanawad	29.62 miles (47.67 Km.)
5.	Gogaon-Gugariakheri	6.12 miles (9.85 Km.)

These roads were in addition to the part of the Agra-Bombay Road which traversed the District for a good length.

During the period[4] 1921-30 the only road constructed in the District was the road from Khargone to Julwania (on Agra-Bombay Road) *via* Oon. The road was constructed in 1930 with a length of 26.75 miles (43.05 Km.) and the total, expenditure incurred was Rs. 8,05,907. There[5] were in all 13 roads in existence in the District upto 1930 with a length 168 miles (270.48 Km.), the important[6] among them being.—

1. Sanawad-Khargone Road.
2. Khargone-Oon Road.
3. Khargone-Desgaon Road.
4. Gogaon-Gugriakhedi Road.
5. Thikri-Talwara Road.
6. Kukshi-Chikhalda Road.
7. Mandleshwar-Khargone Road.
8. Barwaha-Maheshwar Road.

1. Special Statistical Report of Holkar State, 1910-20, p. 304.
2. Ibid., p. 306.
3. Ibid., p. 307.
4. Ibid., 1921-30, Statement XI.
5. Ibid., Statement XXXVI.
6. Indore State Gazetteer, 1931, Vol. III, p. 119.

Roads in Erstwhile Barwani State

No railway traverses the state. In 1891 there were roads from Barwani to Rajghat a distance of three miles (4.83 Km.), Julwania to Lingwa, 7 miles (11.27 Km.), a section of the Bombay-Agra Road, Barwani to Julwania, 25 miles (40.23 Km.), Barwani to Anjar, 10 miles (16.09 Km.) and Barwani to Baigor, 40 miles (64.37 Km.). All these roads except the Julwania-Lingwa were unmetalled. The Julwania-Lingwa road was a section of the Bombay-Agra road, and was under the management of the Central India Agency Public Works Department. In 1896 the road from Anjar to Bilwa (connecting with the Barwani-Julwania Road) was metalled. In October 1899 the construction of Moidakhetia road 13 miles (20.92 Km.) was commenced and completed in October 1901. In December 1899, the construction of Rajpur-Palsud road, 15 miles (24.24 Km.) was taken in hand and completed in October 1901. In January 1900, the roads from Anjar to Mohipura 4 miles (6.43 Km.) and Anjar to Talwada 11 miles (17.70 Km.) were commenced and completed in October 1901. By 1901, all the above roads but Barwani-Baigor were metalled.

There were at that time 118 miles (189.90 Km.) of metalled roads in the State. The Barwani-Julwania road joined the Bombay-Agra road at Julwania and carried traffic to Mhow railway station on one side and Khandesh on the other. This road was later on connected with Sardarpur-Kukshi road. In addition construction work, was in hand on the following roads.—

S. No.	Name of Road	Total cost (Rs.)
1.	Barwani-Talwara	44,259
2.	Newali-Moida Section	52,557
3.	Moida-Khetia	50,676
4.	Anjar-Talwara	—
5.	Diversion of Anjar-Bilwa Road	3,886

All the metalled and unmetalled roads in the state were maintained in proper order.[1] A coating 3" thick of stone metal was given in the year on Barwani-Rajghat and Borlai-Anjar roads—a distance of 6 miles (9.65 Km.). Stone metal was also broken by famine labour and collected on Anjar-Talwara road for 1 mile (1.61 Km.), Barwani-Julwania road for 2 miles, (3.22 Km.) Barwani to Borlai for 7 miles (11.27 Km.), and Anjar to Bilwa for 4 miles (6.43 Km.). In the year 1902-1903, two causeways were constructed on Barwani-Julwania Road.

1. Barwani State Administration Report, 1902-03, p. 19.

In the year 1910-11[1] original works of communications as detailed below were continued.

"Re-construction of Barwani-Julwania Road remained in progress. Many waterways and culverts were constructed and arrangements for consolidation work to be done in the next monsoon were maded".

"Metal collection on the Rajpur-Palsud Road and *murum* collection on Palsud-Newali road was taken in hand. A skew bridge on Rajpur-Palsud road was constructed at Dhanod. Alignment of straight road from Palace to Dasehra Maidan was taken in hand and earth-work and dismantling of houses that were coming in the way were almost completed".

In the year 1911-12,[2] the following main works of communication were taken up or were in progress.—

1. Construction of Barwani-Julwania Road.
2. Rajpur-Palsud Road.
3. Palsud-Newali Road.
4. Dasehra Maidan-Palace Road.

The condition of the roads in the erstwhile Barwani State during the period 1931-39 was as follows.

Construction of New Roads—Ranjit-Rajghat Road

The construction of this road was commenced and completed during this period. The necessity of this road was felt more as there was no approach road to the Narmada on Barwani side and all the traffic had to pass through the stony and sandy bed on the river which caused many difficulties especially during rainy season. His Highness the ruler had since long planned for a good paved road to the Narmada. For construction of this road he had started a lottery in year 1929 as the State was not in a position to bear the full cost of its construction. At the same time there were contributions from the public for the construction of this approach road. Its construction was started in 1931 and completed in 1933[3], at the total cost of Rs. 46,478 out of which people's contribution amounted to Rs. 11,989. The proceeds from lottery were to the tune of Rs. 14,499 and Rs. 19,990 was the amount subscribed by the State.

In addition, the following three new metalled roads were constructed during the same period[4].

1. Ibid., 1910-11, p. 15.
2. Ibid., 1911-12, p. 21.
3. Minority Administration Report of Barwani State, 1931-39, p. 56.
4. Ibid., p. 64.

S. No.	Name	Length		Expenditure
		miles	Km.	(Rs.)
1.	Rajpur-Khetia Road	50.0	80.47	4,24,091
2.	Anjar-Talwada Deb Road	1.0	1.61	38,102
3.	Barwani-Bawangaja Road	5.0	8.04	22,065
	Total	56.0	90.12	4,84,258

Fair-Weather Roads

In addition to these metalled roads, the construction of the following fair weather roads was commenced and completed during this period.—

S. No.	Name	Length		Expenditure
		Miles	Km.	Rs.
1.	Bawangaza-Bokrata-Khetia Road	45.0	72.42	14,359
2.	Barwani-Silawad Road	15.0	24.14	10,531
3.	Palsood-Silawad Road	10.0	16.09	1,809
	Total	70.0	112.65	26,699

Construction of Bridges and Causeways

During the same period, the following bridges and causeways were constructed in the State.—

S. No.	Name/Situation of Bridge or causeway	Cost of construction (Rs.)
1.	Vazar Causeway	10,746
2.	Newali Bridge	10,871
3.	Gomi River Causeway at Pansemal	27,198
4.	Bhongli River Causeway at Anjar	4,507
5.	Melan Bridge	49,106
6.	Breast-wall on link-road near Sagar Vilas Lake, Barwani	7,817

Roads Repaired and Improved

In addition to the construction of new roads, steps were also taken by the State for the repairing and improvement of the following roads.—

S. No.	Name of road	Length	
		Miles	Km.
1.	Barwani-Julwania Road	28.00	45.06
2.	Barwani-Rajghat Road	3.00	4.83
3.	Anjar-Talwada-Buzurg Road	3.00	4.83
4.	Bilwa-Talwada Buzurg Road	2.00	3.22
	Total	36.00	57.94

The total amount spent on all these roads was Rs. 3,89,418 during the period 1931-39.

Road Construction Activities (1939-45)

The policy of improving communications in the State was followed onwards during 1939[1]-45.[2]

Roads Repaired

The following roads were consolidated by remetalling or improved in their alignment during the period.—

S. No.	Name of the Road	Length	
		Miles	Km.
1.	Barwani-Town Roads	3.0	4.83
2.	Barwani-Rajghat Road	3.0	4.83
3.	Barwani-Bawangaja Road	1.0	1.61
4.	Barwani-Julwania Road	20.50	32.99
5.	Anjar-Talwada-Deb Road	6 0	9.66
6.	Bilwa-Palda-Sirvi Road	1.50	2.41
7.	Rajpur-Palsud Road	5.0	8.04
8.	Pansemal-Khetia Road	2.0	3.22
9.	Khetia Town Road	2.0	3.22
10.	Barwani-Silawad Road	15.0	24.14
11.	Other Roads	15.0	24.14

The yearwise amount spent for repairs to roads during the period was as stated below.—

Year	Expenditure (Rs.)
1939-40	62,348
1940-41	46,501
1941-42	47,957
1942-43	43,290
1943-44	50,118
1944-45	1,15,640

About six miles (9.66 Km.) of the Bombay-Agra Road passed through Barwani State from Julwania to Lingwa. This portion of the road was maintained by the Central Public Words Department for which the state paid to the Government of India a sum of Rs. 640/- per year. The annual contribution is included in the above figures.

Bridges and Causeways :

Melan Bridge

The most important bridge in Barwani State *viz.*, the Milan bridge was completed in 1939-40. Heavy floods in 1940-41 washed away the

1. Ibid., 1939-42, pp. 48-49.
2. Ibid., 1942-45, pp. 39-41.

Deb Causeway near Talwada Deb on the Anjar-Thikri Road. As it demarcated the boundary between this State and the Holkar State and was a joint liability, it was speedily reconstructed in 1941-42 and the expenses were equally shared by this state and the Holkar Durbar. The important among the old causeways repaired was the Goi causeway.

The following statement shows detail of bridges and causeways constructed or repaired during the period.

S. No.	Name	Year of completion	Expenditure. (Rs)
1.	Melan Bridge	1939-40	46,648
2.	Deb causeway	1941-42	14,457
3.	Undwa Nala Causeway	1939-40	4,689
4.	Bilwa Nala Causeway	1941-42	621
5.	Goi Causeway	1941-42	3,415
6.	Taloon Causeway	1941-42	1,706

Trestle Bridge

As usual, trestle bridges were constructed every year on the river Narmada at two points, *e.g.* Bhilkheda and Mohipura to link-road communication from border towns situated on the southern bank of the Narmada with the public roads on the other side. The expenses and income of the trestle bridge at Bhilkheda were shared equally by Barwani State with the Holkar State while the Mohipura trestle bridge was alternately constructed every year by the Barwani State and the Gwalior State.

The expenditure on account of the trestle bridges during the period 1939-40 to 1944-45 was Rs. 4728, 1956, 4421, 2061, 1808 and 2308, respectively.

The road construction activities were continued further in Barwani State as follows.[1]

New Roads

(1) Barwani-Silawad Road

In pursuance of the project for the construction of the Barwani-Silawad Road, which was started in 1941-42, an expenditure of Rs. 41,510 was incurred during the year 1942-43 to 1944-45. Out of a length of 15 miles (24.24 Km.) 11 miles (17.70 Km.) of road had constructed by that time.

(ii) Junajhira-Wedpuri Road

This project involved construction of a direct metalled road of about 20 miles (32.20 Km) between Barwani and Palsood in order to save a detour

1 Ibid., 1942-43 to 1944-45, pp. 39 and 41.

of 15 miles (24.15 Km) between the two towns. It was taken up for construction in 1944-45.

(iii) Anjar-Barda Road

This scheme was for construction of a metalled road of 3 miles (4.83 Km) to connect Anjar with Barda on the Narmada. It was taken up in 1944-45 for construction.

The Table below shows the progress of roads in the District after the formation of Madhya Bharat upto 1960-61.

Years	Metalled		Unmetalled		Total maintenance charges in Rs.	Length of National Highways	
1	2		3		4	5	
	Miles	Km	Miles	Km		Miles	Km.
1948-49	259.37	417.41	171	275.20	2,21,834	—	—
1951-52	259.37	417.41	171	275.20	4,70,779	63.00	101.39
1955-56	343.12	552.20	141	226.92	12,93,360	63.00	101.39
1960-61	499.50	803.87	—	—	N. A.	63.00	101.39

Road Activities During Five year Plans

(1) Construction of New Roads (First Five Year Plan)

Before the commencement of the First Five Year Plan there were about 259.37 miles (417.41 Km) of roads in the District. In addition, the District was traversed through 63 miles (101.39 Km) of National Highway (Agra-Bombay Road). This was under the supervision and maintenance of the Central Government up to 1950-51. But in the year 1951-52 it was handed over to Madhya Bharat Government for annual repairs and maintenance. It was envisaged to construct a new road from Niwali to Sendhwa of the total length of 12.25 miles (19.71 Km). It was nearly completed during the Plan period and an amount of Rs. 5,04,725 was spent over it, and further expenditure to the tune of Rs. 2,00,000 was planned over it. In addition, a road from Kasrawad to Khalghat, with length of 11 miles (17.70 Km) was also completed with financial assistance from the Central Government at a cost of Rs. 3,88,513.

(2) Improvement and Repairs

Side by side, improvement of existing roads was also taken up during the period and an amount of Rs. 3,75,000 was earmarked for renovation and repairs. During the period 33 miles (53.11 Km) of roads were renovated and the work was continued on other roads having length of about 36 miles (57.94 Km). Provision was also made in the Plan for the black-topping of surface of road-lengths traversing through the Municipal towns. According to this scheme steps were taken for the tarring of Khargone-Sanawad Road, Julwania-Anjad-

Bairasia Road and Indore-Simrole-Khedieghat Road. An expenditure of Rs.30,000 was budgeted for this purpose but actually Rs. 27,472 were spent over it.

Under the same scheme entire length of 63 miles (101.39 Km) of the National Highway was also black-topped with Central Government's financial assistance.

(3) Construction of New Bridges and Culverts

Upto 1951, traffic on the Narmada (Near Rajghat) on Barwani-Sardarpur road was crossed over on Pantoon Bridge. But this arrangement was very unsatisfactory. Therefore it was Planned to construct a permanent bridge there. The foundation stone of this bridge was laid in 1951 and in the first year (1951-52) Rs. 28,500 were spent over it, for carrying out preliminary works and full fledged work was commenced in the following year. In addition to this major bridge, it was also decided to provide bridges over sanawad-Khargone road over the Kurang and Beda river. The bridge over the Kurang river was completed at a cost of Rs. 2,16,980 and it was estimated that another amount of Rs. 44,700 would be needed for ancillary road works. Similarly, an amount of Rs. 3,00,000 was spent over the bridge on Beda river.

(4) Repairs and Improvements over Existing Bridges

For improving and repairing existing bridges and culverts during the First Plan, an amount of Rs. 50,000 was earmarked and actually Rs 29,429 were spent over this item.

Thus for purpose of construction of New roads and bridges and improving existing roads and bridges in the District an amount of Rs. 18,20,447 was sanctioned and actually Rs. 11,02,159 were spent during the Plan period.

Second Five Year Plan Schemes

The schemes operating during the Second Plan period (1956-61) related to (1) completion of bridges and other works taken up during the First Plan and carried over in the Second Plan. (2) Improvement of Surface-widening of widths of the existing roads and (3) construction of new bridges and roads.

(1) Completion of Continued Works

The construction work of the bridges over the Beda and Narmada rivers which was commenced during the First Plan was continued during the Second Plan and completed. The following Table shows the details of the schemes.[1]

S. No.	Name of Bridge	Provision in First Plan (Lakhs)	Amount spent in First Plan	Expenditure during Second Plan.
1.	Bridge on the Beda River	3.00	1.00	2.00
2.	Bridge on the Narmada River at Rajghat	10.00	0.50	9.50

1. Second Five Year Plan of Madhya Bharat, pp. 216-17.

(2) Improvement of Existing Roads

The following three roads were selected for carrying out improvements as regards their surface, width, etc. during the Second Five Year Plan.

S. No.	Name of Road	Length in miles	Length in Km.	Cost R. in lakhs
1.	Indore-Simrole-Khedighat	20.0	32.19	3.60
2.	Dhamnod-Mandleshwar Road	10.0	16.09	1.80
3.	Julwania-Khargone Road	—	—	—

(3) Construction of New Roads

During the Second Five Year Plan it was proposed to construct three new roads in the District for improvement of existing facilities.—

S. No.	Name of Road	Lenth in miles	Length in Km.	Cost Rs. in Lakhs
1.	Khargone-Bistan	13.00	20.92	4.8
2.	Diversion of Khargone Road	2.00	3.22	1.0
3.	Diversion of Sanawad Road	1.50	2.41	0 9
4.	Sendhwa-Warla Road	—	—	0.9
	Total	16.50	26.55	7.6

(4) Asphalting of Roads Passing Through Municipal Towns

In addition to the roads at item (2) selected for improvement, the following roads were also earmarked for asphalting of their surface during the Second Plan.—

S. No.	Name of Municipal Town	Length of P. W. D. road to be asphalted		Name of P. W. D. road	Cost (Rs.)
		Miles	Km.		
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Khargone	2.50	4.02	Khargone—Sanawad Khargone—Julwania Khargone—Deshgaon Khargone—Kasrawad	55,000
		0.75	1.21	Khargone— Maheshwar	12,000
2.	Barwaha	1.50	2.41	Indore —Simrole Khedighat Barwaha —Maheshwar	28,000
3.	Maheshwar	0.50	0.81	Barwaha —Maheshwar Dhamnod	8,000
4.	Khetia	0.50	0.81	Rajpur —Khetia	8,000
5.	Rajpur	0.50	0.81	Barwani —Julwania	8.000

In addition, a scheme was also drawn for the regrading and improvement of Dhamnod-Maheshwar road. The total length taken up for improvement was only 5.0 miles (8.05 Km.) A provision of Rs. 50,000 was made at a flat rate of Rs. 10,000 per mile.

The Government of India also agreed to contribute to the State Government at least half of the estimated cost for construction of Sendhwa-Warla Road in *Adivasi* area. The total length of the road was 23.00 miles (37.01 Km.) and an expenditure of Rs. 9.20 lakhs was estimated for the purpose.

(5) Improvement of Culverts and Causeways, etc., on Existing Water Courses

There were many roads in the District which became unpassable during rainy season due to the low height of the culvert or causeways on them. Out of these roads the following roads were selected for improvement of the crossings during the Second[1] Plan Period.—

S. No.	Name of Road	Situation of crossing	River Crossed	Existing structure for crossing	Substitute suggested	Cost (Rs.)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Khargone—Sanawad Road	Miles 9.50	Chital river	Nil	High level causeway	1,50,000
2.	Sanawad —Khargone Road	18.12	Ambak river	„	—do—	1,50,000
3.	Barwaha —Maheshwar Dhamnod Road	1.50	Nala	„	—do—	60.000
4.	„ „	12.75	—do	„	—do—	50,000
5.	„ „	15.75	—do—	„	—do—	50,000
6.	„ „	6.25	Bardia river	Road bridge	Submersible Dam	1,50,000
7.	Khargone—Julwania Road	12.75	Dalki River	—do—	—do—	40.000
8.	„ „	22.25	Savera River	—do—	—do—	40,000
9.	„ „	22.75	Barkhedi	—do—		

Road Schemes in the Third Five Year Plan

While allocating the funds for road schemes in the Third Five Year Plan to the District the following criteria were kept in view.—

(1) Area of the District as compared with the total area of the State.

(2) Population of the District as compared with the total population of the State.

(3) Present mileage of Roads in the District in comparision with the present total length of roads of the State.

(4) Mileage of Railroads in the District as compared with the total railway mileage in the State.

1. Ibid., p. 226.

After due consideration of above mentioned points, a sum of Rs. 44.10 lakhs was allocated for expansion and improvement of existing road facilities in the District. The following was the programme for the Plan period[1] (1961-66).

(1) Completion of Works

The various works which were commenced during the Second Plan in the District were carried over in the Third Plan as they were incomplete. The following Table shows the details.—

S. No.	Name of Scheme	Financial Target (Lakhs)	Physical Target (miles)	Km.
1.	Khargone-Bistan Road			
2.	Sendhwa-Warla Road	8.82	17.12	27.55
3.	Road to Sanawad			

(2) New Road Works

The following Table shows the details of new roads selected for construction during the Third Plan Period.—

S. No.	Name of Road	Financial target (lakhs)	Physical target (miles)	Km.
1.	Sulgaon-Sanawad Road			
2.	Mandleshwar-Mhow Road			
3.	Road from Patalia to Pal (from Bhusawal district of Maharashtra State)	4.55	16.50	26.55

(3) Regrading of Existing Roads

The following Table gives the relevant details of works proposed to be undertaken for regrading of roads during the Plan.—

Name of Road	Financial target (lakhs)	Physical target (Miles)	Km.
Bawangaja-Pati road	2.00	10.00	16 09

(4) Widening and Ashpalting of Existing Roads

Under this scheme, the only work done was completion of works continued from the Second Plan. Accordingly Balghat Road (instead of Julwania-Khargone Road) was taken up for improvement. For this scheme a sum of Rs. 20,000 was earmarked for improvement of one mile (1.61 Km.) length.

1. *Tritiya Pancha Varshiya Yojana, Paschim Nimar*, p. 41.

(5) Construction of Fair Weather Roads

Two roads were selected for construction during the Plan period. These roads were (a) Road from Bhikangaon to Pandiya *via* Chainpur (b) Road from Udainagar Dhardi to Barwaha Sidhwarcoot. The total length of these two roads was 32.0 miles (51.50 Km.) and a sum of Rs. 1.60 lakhs was sanctioned.

(6) Construction of Bridges and Culverts

In addition to comletion of works commenced during the Second Plan, new works were also taken up for making the roads easily accessible during the rains.

(a) Completion of Continued Bridge Works

Under this scheme a sum of Rs. 32.53 lakhs was earmarked for completion of 2 major bridges and 14 minor bridges as detailed below.—

(i) Minor Bridges, etc.

1. Construction of Cross Drainage on Khargone-Bistan Road.
2. Construction of Cross Drainage on Sanawad-Warla Road.
3. Construction of Cross Drainage on road turning towards Sanawad.
4. Construction of Cross Drainage on miles ½.12/6 on Barwaha-Maheshwar Road.
5. Minor bridge on mile 12/6 on Khargone-Julwania Road.
6. Minor Bridge on mile 12/2, on Khargone-Sendhwa Road.
7. Minor Bridge on mile 122/6 on Barkhedi River.

(ii) Major Bridges

1. Bridge on the River Narmada near Rajghat (Barwani).
2. Bridge on the Road turning towards Khargone.
3. Bridge on the River Beda on Sanawad-Khargone Road.
4. Submersible bridge on the Baredla River on Barhat-Maheshwar-Dhamnod Road.

(7) Commencements of New Works

The total amount sanctioned for these works during the Plan was Rs. 4.40 lakhs for 2 major bridges and many minor ones.

(i) Minor Bridges

(a) Construction of cross drainages on.—

(1) Udainagar-Dhardi Road *via* Barwaha and Sidhwakoot.
(2) Barwani-Rajghat Road.
(3) Mandleshwar-Mhow Road.
(4) Sanawad-Sulgaon Road.

(ii) Major Bridges

Construction of Bridges on.—

(a) Miles 19/4 and 18/1 on Khargone-Sanawad Road.
(b) Miles 5/4 on Barwani-Julwania Road.
(c) Kasrawad-Pipalgaon Road.

Classification of Roads

The following Table shows the category-wise distribution of roads in the District as on 30th November, 1962.—

S. No.	Class of Roads	Length	
		Mileage	Km.
1.	National Highways	63.0	101.39
2.	State Highways	115.61	186.12
3.	Major District Roads	240.75	387.45
4.	Minor District Roads	233.37	375.57
5.	Community Development Roads	184.75	297.33
6.	Village Roads	129.25	208.01
7.	Municipal Roads	13.00	20.02
8.	Forest Roads	115.00	185.07

(I) National Highways

The District is at present traversed by one National Highway—the Agra-Bombay Road (constructed between 1835-60) which runs for 63.00 miles (101.39 Km.) in the District. The black-topped width of this Highway is 10′ only, except in towns where it is increased to 22′. The road passes through the following important towns in the District.—

1. Khalghat mile 52, (83.72 Km.)
2. Julwania mile 80, (128.80 Km.)
3. Sendhwa mile 96, (154.56 Km.)

This National Highway was transferred by the Central P. W. D. to the State Public Works Department in 1951-52. The total average annual expenditure for the maintenance of the road, other works and Dak-Bungalows is Rs. 3,25,000/-.

(II) State Highways

The total length of the State Highways on 30th Nov. 1962 was 115.61 miles (186.12 Km.). These highways are maintained by the State Public Works Department. The following are the important roads falling under this category.—

S. No.	Name of the road	Length	
		Miles	Km.
1.	Barwani-Julwania road	28.08	45.06
2.	Barwani-Rajghat road	3.0	4.83
3.	Khargone-Desgaon road	37.37	60.14
4.	Khargone-Julwania road	26.62	42.84
5.	Indore-Simrole-Khedighat Khandwa road	13.02	21.52

(III) Major District Roads

These roads usually connect the District headquarters or industrial places or important business centres. The lengths of these roads in the District on 30th November, 1962 was 240.75 miles (387.45 Km.).

These roads are metalled and fairly well maintained by the State P. W. D. The following are the roads falling within this category.—

S. No.	Name of Road	Length	
		Miles	Kms.
1.	Rajpur-Khetia Road	50.0	80.46
2.	Niwali-Sendhwa Road	12.25	19.71
3.	Barwani-Turs-Ashaphat Road	1.25	2.01
4.	Bilwa-Talwara Road	6.37	10.25
5.	Anjad-Talwara-Thikri	23.0	37.01
6.	Barwani-Bawangaja	5.0	8.05
7.	Barwani-Silawad	15.0	24.14
8.	Sanawad-Khargone	41.62	66.98
9.	Mandleshwar-Khargone	25.75	41.44
10.	Gogaon-Chugria Khedi	6.25	10.05
11.	Barwaha-Mandleshwar-Dhamnod	38.50	62.10
12.	Kasrawad-Khalghat	11.00	17.70
13.	Khandwa-Indore	4.00	6.44

(IV) Minor District Roads

The total length of these roads in the District on 30th November, 1962 was 232.37 miles (375 57 Km.). The following are the important roads under this category.—

S. No.	Name of Road	Length	
		Miles	Km.
1.	Barwani-Awalda Road	8.0	12.87
2.	Rajpur-Pipari Road	4.50	7.24
3.	Balkua-Dhaba Road	2.87	4.62
4.	Junazira-Vedpuri Road	5.37	8.64
5	Kasrawad-Pipalgaon Road	14.25	22.93
6.	Maheshwar-Mehatwada Road	7.00	11.26
7.	Rajpur-Mandwada Road	8.50	13.69
8.	Julwania-Chhoti Khargone Road	3.25	5.23
9.	Anjad-Barda Road	3.00	4.83
10.	Dawana-Khurrampura Road	6.87	11 06

(V) Community Development Block Roads

The total length of these roads in the District was 184.75 miles (297.33 Km.) on 30th November, 1962. Out of these, 23.25 miles (37.42 Km.) were metalled and 161.50 miles (259.91 Km.) were only fair weather roads.

(a) Metalled Roads

S. No.	Name of Road	Length	
		Miles	Km.
1.	Kasrawad-Nawadatoli	3.37	5.42
2.	Selani-Khedi	3.50	5.63
3.	Bamandi-Regvaman Khedi	6.00	9.66
4.	Magarkheda-Jarwai-Bhoinda	6.37	10.25
5.	Sungun-Begandi	2.75	4.43
6.	Satrati Road	0.75	1.20
7.	Khalghat Road	0.57	0.52

(b) Unmetalled Roads

S. No.	Name of Road	Length	
		Miles	Km.
1.	Malwan-Warla	14.00	22.53
2.	Warla-Dhavli	10.00	16.09
3.	Dhavli-Sonkhedi	6.00	9.66
4.	Gawadi-Burapani	4.00	6.43
5.	Bhikangaon-Jhirania via Chainpur	15.00	24.14
6.	Chainpur-Mitawal-Panghana	8.12	13.07
7.	Sarwa-Anjar-via Segaon	9.37	15.08
8.	Bhikangaon-Rodia	12.37	19.89
9.	Vedpuri-Samarkheda	4.00	6.44
10.	Anjar-Asdi	3.00	4.82
11.	Others	75.64	128.17

(VI) Village Roads

The total length of these roads in the District as on 30th November, 1962 was 129.25 miles (208.01 Km.). The following are the important roads falling under this category.—

S. No.	Name of Road	Length	
		Miles	Km.
1.	Talwada-Dhaba-Baodi	6.00	9.66
2.	Rajpur-Margaon	4.00	6.44
3.	Bawangaja-Patti	11.00	17.70
4.	Pati-Bokrata-Hindolbagh	16.00	25.75
5.	Khetia-Hindolbagh	16.00	25.75
6.	Barwani-Ghongra	22.00	35.40
7.	Barwani-Silawad-Chunabhatti	10.00	16.09
8.	Silawad-Patti	12.00	19.31
9.	Anjar-Mohipura	4.00	6.44
10.	Anjar-Susana	6.00	9.66

11.	Dondwada-Molkatar	2.00	3.21
12.	Pansemal-Bhandara-Bujurg	4.00	6.44
13.	Jamghat-Bhagdara	7.25	11.67
14.	Osada-Deosar	9.00	14.48

All these roads are fair weather roads and useful in dry season only.

(VII) Municipal Roads

The total length of the Municipal roads in the District on 30th November, 1962, was about 13.00 miles (20.92 Km.) shown as below. These roads are maintained by various municipal committees.

S. No.	Name of Municipality	Length	
		Miles	Km.
1.	Khargone	1.80	1.12
2.	Burwaha	0.75	1.21
3.	Barwani	10.50	16.19

(VIII) Forest Roads

The Forest Department has under its jurisdiction a length of 115.00 miles (185.07 Km.) of roads. These roads are mere cart-tracks where motor vehicles can pass through with great difficulty even in dry season. The details of these are as follows.—

S. No.	Name of Road	Length	
		Miles	Km.
1.	Sindhibari-Dhaoli	15.00	24.14
2.	Dhaoli-Kabri	9.00	14.48
3	Bistan-Kumbardi	35.00	56.33
4.	Bhadaoli-Chachariya-pati	21.00	33.80
5.	Damkheda-Mandwa	10.00	16.09
6.	Mandwa-Gadgian	8.00	12.88
7.	Chirva-Zagadi	9.00	14.48
8.	Kotha Burz-Hirapur	8.00	12.88

Vehicles and Conveyances

The principal means of transport obtaining in this district are motor vehicles, as well as other non-mechanical vehicles. Among the motor vehicles the most important are the cars (including jeep cars), buses, motor trucks (lorries) and motor cycles (including scooters) etc. Among the non-mechanical vehicles the important ones are the cycles, cycle rikshas, horse-driven tongas and bullock-carts.

Number of Motor Vehicles

The Table below shows the year-wise number of motor vehicles in the District from the year 1956-57 to 1967-68 in the District.—

S. No.	Year	Cars	Goods Vehicles	Motorcycles Scooters, etc.	Total
1.	1956-57	9	—	6	15
2.	1957-58	18	—	13	31
3.	1958-59	6	—	5	11
4.	1959-60	—	3	—	3
5.	1960-61	3	2	—	5
6.	1961-62	5	2	6	13
7.	1965-66	88	181	157	426
8.	1966-67	102	197	179	535
9.	1967-68	109	213	235	557

Bicycles

They are the vehicles for a common man. In recent years they have gained much popularity as they are most economical. They have steadily established a place of their own in rural areas. The number of bicycles registered in the District in the years upto 1963-64. is given in the Appendix.

Bullock-Carts

They are the most popular as well as the oldest vehicles in the rural area for centuries. They are used for transport of goods as well as people. They are the cheapest means of conveyance and transport. The number of bullock-carts registered by different Municipalities is given in the Appendix.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

The length of the Railways in the District is very little. It touches the out-skirts of Barwaha *Pargana* only. So the economy of the District is more or less fully dependent on motor transport and there is a net-work of all weather roads in the District. Before the formation of Madhya Bharat in 1948, there were different systems of road transport being followed in different units of the present West Nimar District. For running passenger-buses and goods-carriers on specific routes, monopolies or contracts were sanctioned. Holkar State Motor Vehicles Act (I of 1923) was put into effect from 15th March, 1925. "From 1st October 1928 the Government granted a monopoly on the Burwaha-Maheshwar Road. The contractor is at Maheshwar. Every effort was made by stringent rules to leave him no loophole by which he may exploit the public. There was a certain amount of engineered opposition to the scheme which fizzled out when it became an established fact."[1]

1. Holkar State Police Administration Report, 1928, pp. 19-20.

After 1948, the system of monopoly on routes was discontinued and uniform rules for registering and plying of motor vehicles were promulgated. The motor vehicles department was detached from Police department and an independent Transport Commissioner was appointed. The Indian Motor Vehicles Act of 1940 which was in force till 1949, was replaced by Madhya Bharat Motor Vehicles Act of 1949 and Public Transport, was gradually established on a set pattern.

Private Services

In this District till now, complete nationalisation of Road Transport has not been effected and both the private and the State-owned services ply side by side, and in some cases, even on the same routes. Till 20th September, 1950, the following routes were exclusively operated by Private companies.[1]

Name of Route	Route mileage	No. of buses plying	Seating Capacity	Single trips	Daily Distance mileage	Km.
1	2	3	4	5	6	
1. Barwani-Julwania	28	4	128	8	224	360.64
2. Barwani-Khetia	70	3	96	3	210	338.10
3. Barwani-Rajghat	20	1	32	2	40	64.40
4. Barwani-Talwara	20	1	32	2	40	64.40
5. Khargone-Sendhwa	42	8	192	12	504	811.44
6. Khargone-Mandleshwar	28	5	157	10	280	450.80
7. Barwaha-Manpur	52	1	32	2	54	86.94
8. Sanawad-Khargone	43	4	113	8	344	553.84
9. Sendhwa-Mandleshwar	60	1	32	2	120	193.20
10. Barwaha-Dhamnod	39	7	207	14	546	879.06
Total	402	35	1021	63	2362	3802.82

State-Owned Services

In addition to the Private Owned Companies, the Madhya Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation also operates its services in the District. They run parallel to the privately-owned services on some routes.

Amenities to Passengers

The services are run punctually according to scheduled timings. Printed time and fare table are issued from time to time for the convenience and information of public. Arrivals and departures of buses are also exhibited through notice boards at all passenger sheds and at Depot Head-quarters. Passenger sheds at important way-side stations have been put up and construction of more such sheds at other places is under progress. Drinking-water facilities have been accorded to the travelling public at important stations.

1. Report of the Committee on Nationalisation of Road Transport in Madhya Bharat, 1951, pp. 63-67.

RAIL-ROADS

There is a small length of metre gauge railway line passing through the out-skirts of Barwaha Tahsil. The line was formerly called the Holkar State Railway (from Khandwa to Indore). The rest of the District is without any railway line. "The Holkar State Railway section wihich is maintained by the Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway, runs through the Pargana, with the stations of Mukhtyara-Jothawaya, Barwaha and Sanawad lying within its limits. The line which was opened for traffic in 1876 crosses the Nerbudda near Barwaha and has a magnificent bridge recently constructed in place of old one, washed away by a flood some years ago."[1] From 1951 the railway line forms a part of the Western Railway Zone. The table below shows the progress of opening of the railways in the District.[2]

Section	Date of opening	Length	
		Miles	Km.
Khandwa-Sanawad	1-2-1874	34.20	55.04
Sanawad-Mortakka	1-4-1874	3.50	5.63
Mortakka-Choral	20-1-1875	20.50	32.99

Railway Traffic

The Table below shows the other details regarding the railways in the District from 1955-56 to 1963-64.—

Khargone (Barwaha-Sanawad)

Year	No. of passengers carried	Transport of goods Quantity (in Tons)
1955-56	2,46,710	8,077
1956-57	2,55,381	8,399
1957-58	2,68,329	8,311
1958-59	2,42,948	8,408
1959-60	2,01,945	9,877
1960-61	1,94,136	12,933
1961-62	1,90,356	11,536
1962-63	1,63,619	3,436
1963-64	1,63,244	3,713

WATER WAYS, FERRIES AND BRIDGES

(I) Water Ways

The river Narmada traverses through the District from East to West. Its tributaries from Vindhya ranges flow north to south and those from Satpura ranges flow south to north.

1. Indore State Gazetteer, 1931, p. 506.
2. History of Indian Railways, 1945, p. 63.

The river Narmada has got her origin in Amarkantak hills and has perennial flow. The river-beds of Narmada and its other tributaries in this District are of rocky nature, being situated in hilly area.

All these streams are narrow and flow through deep valleys which they have carved out through continuous effect of erosion. The bed-slopes are very steep. These tributaries have no perennial flow.

There are no falls on any other river in the District except the famous fall on the Narmada river at Sahastradhara near Maheshwar.

(ii) Ferries

At all the places ferries are available for crossing the Narmada. During Holkar State time one Ghat Inspector was deputed to inspect the ferries from time to time as regards their condition and capacity to ply in the river. Now, this is looked after by the officials of the Public Work Department of the State. Ferries are available for crossing the Narmada at 29 places on the Narmada (Appendix-B).

(iii) Bridges and Culverts

The road system in this district is not adequately provided with bridges, culverts and causeways. So they sometimes cause obstruction during the time of heavy rains. Steps have been taken during the recent years to minimise these obstacles by the construction of many bridges, culverts and causeways in the District. Recently two major bridges have been constructed, one at Mortakka called the Mortakka Bridge on the Indore-Khandwa Road and the other called the Khalghat bridge on the Agra-Bombay road. The existing number of bridges, culverts and causeways on National Highways, State Highways, and other District Roads was 230, 305 and 635 respectively.

TRAVEL AND TOURIST FACILITIES

1. Serais and Dharmshalas

The existence of old time *serais* and *Dharmshalas* is traceable only at some renowned holy places like Oon, Barwani and Maheshwar. At Maheshwar especially there are good *dharmshalas* of the period of Marathas. It became a place of importance in 1766 when Ahilya Bai assumed the reigns of Government and selected Maheshwar as her Civil Capital. Many temples and places were constructed at Maheshwar during that time and the town had become a centre of religions pilgrimage. There are no old time *serais* and *dharmshalas* at other places in the District.

2. Rest-Houses

The Dak Bungalows, Rest-Houses, and Inspection Bungalows have been constructed in recent times for the convenience of the travellers and tourists.

They are maintained by the Public Works Department of the State. These rest-houses are available to prescribed categories of Government servants who visit the places on duty. They are also thrown open to members of the public at prescribed rates. In addition, the Forest Department also maintains some rest-houses for its own staff. The Appendix No II shows the details regarding their situation.

POSTS, TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES

Early Postal System

The first regular Postal system in northern India was introduced under Sher Shah Suri, and Akbar extended it to other parts as his conquests progressed. He had built Post-houses at stages 10 miles apart on the principal roads and swift Turki horses were placed at each stage to carry official correspondence, parcels, etc. A regular Postal service was thus maintained among important parts during the 16th century. Before 1873[1] postal arrangements in the Holkar State were entrusted to a contractor who received Rs. 3600 per annum for carrying and delivering all official parcels and letters. Private letters also were received and despatched by the contractor at rates fixed by himself.

In 1873 a regular Postal Department of the State was organised by Sir T. Madhav Rao, the Miniter to the Holkar State.

In 1873 an arrangement was signed with the British Government. Accordingly, all letters and packets which passed from the Imperial Post-Offices to State Post-Offices or *Vice Versa* here to be delivered to the persons addressed on payment of an additional charge amounting to half the original charge.[2]

From the November, 1879, Postal Department was put under an independent Deputy Post-Master-General with headquarters at Indore.

In 1885 a State issue of ½ anna stamps was made bearing the effigy of of Tukoji Rao II. Later a one-fourth anna, one-anna, two-annas stamps and quarter-anna post Cards were introduced. The system of working was modelled more and more on the British Lines gradually.

An agreement was entered into by the Holkar State with the Government of India regarding the Postal unity and it came into effect on 1st March 1908[3]. The Indian Post Office Act was adopted in the same year.

In conformity with article I of the foregoing agreement, the number of Post-Offices existing in the District at the time of the amalgamation was 21. Out of these six were Imperial Post-Offices.

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1. Indore State Gazetteer, 1908, Vol. II, pp. 129-133.
2. Ibid., p. 133.
3. Ibid., 1931, Vol. III, p. 38.

Postal Conditions in Barwani State

Before 1908, Imperial Post Offices had been opened at Barwani town, Anjar, Rajpur and Khetia, the last being in connection with Shahada Post Office in Khandesh (Bombay Presidency) and the other three under the Rajputana and Central India Circle. During the same period a combined Post and Telegraph office was also opened at Barwani. In addition regular Dak Service was also maintained by the State. This was known as Mulki Postal Service and State letters and parcels were carried free. Postal lines ran from Barwani, Silawad and Pansemal passing by Khetia, Bokrata and Patti, and between Barwani and Pancham Pahar. The State Dak was used almost exclusively for carrying official letters.

A regular mail was first started in the year 1860-61 and used to run from Barwani every day to Pansemal *via* Anjar, Rajpur, Palsud, and Newali, the letters being carried by police sepoys. The total number of miles over which the State mail ran in 1891 and 1901 were 66 and 100 miles, respectively.

As mentioned earlier Barwani State continued to maintain its own system of Post-Offices within its area. At that time there were eleven ***Mulki*** Post-Offices, *viz*, Barwani, Anjar, Rajpur Silawad, Patti, Palsood, Newali, Pansemal, Khetia Mandwada and Talwara Deb. Then, letter on two post offices were opened during the period 1891-1901.

Besides these, there were also Imperial Government Post-Offices at Barwani Anjar, Rajpur. Julwania, Palsood, Pansemal, Khetia, Newali, Silawad, Patti, Talwara Deb, Talwara Buzurg and Mandwada, and Telegraph offices at Barwani, Anjar and Khetia.

Telegraphs

The earliest reference to the existence of telegraph-offices in the District is found in the Administration Report of Central India Agency, 1870-71 "offices have been opened at......Burwai etc."

Telephones

The first place to be provided with telephone facilities was Barwani town as early as 1912-13. In 1914-15 steps were taken to link district head-quarters of Anjar with Barwani.

Present set-up

On the 31st March 1964, 117 Post-offices existed in the District, out of which 59 were permanent and 58 temporary. The Table in the Appendix indicates the situation of the Post-Offices in the District.

The District is provided with a good telephone system which is worked by manual method. Upto August 1965, there were six Telephone Exchanges in the

District. Out of these four were worked manually while remaining two were on Auto system.

The number of telephone connections at different places in the District in 1962,1963 and 1964 was as follows.

	1962	1963	1964
1. Khargone	52	53	93
2. Sendhwa	41	43	42
3. Sanawad	27	26	27
4. Mandleshwar-Opened in June 1965.			
5. Burwaha	26	28	31
6. Bhikangaon-opened in February, 1965.			

In addition to these six exchanges, it is proposed to open telephone exchanges at (1) Anjad, (2) Kasrawad (3) Barwani (4) Maheshwar (5) Rajpur (6) Ozar.

Public Call Offices

In addition to these individual connections there are Public Call Offices at Sendhwa. Anjad, Barwani, Khargone, Meheshwar and Burwaha.

Radio and Wireless Stations

There is no radio or wireless station in this district. The needs of this region are met by the Indore Station of All India Radio. The number of radio-sets in the District is on the increase due to increased awakening among people and also the cheapness of the sets. The number of licensed radio-sets in 1962-63 and 1963-64 was 11,982 and 12,514 respectively.

Organisation of Owners and Employees

There is an association of heavy transport vehicle-owners which is plying trucks for the carriage of goods in the District. Similarly there is a union of passenger bus-owners at Khargone called the "Nimar Zila Private Bus Operators Association".

There is no union of workers in the field of transport and communications in this District.

CHAPTER VIII

MISCELLANEOUS OCCUPATIONS

In an earlier chapter, while considering the pattern of livelihood in the District, it was noticed that besides Agriculture, Industry, Transport and Trade, the number of "workers" in Miscellaneous and Services group formed only 6.58 per cent of the total "workers" in the District in the year 1961. The conditions in some of the occupations and services falling under this group in the District are being considered in this Chapter. In this connection it may generally be concluded that various types of miscellaneous occupations and services can exist only when Agriculture, Industry and Commerce are in a developing state. Predominantly agricultural characteristics of the District with its agriculture-based industrial and commercial activities are not, however, conducive to the development of other occupations and services.

LEARNED PROFESSIONS

Teaching Profession

In any scheme of advancement education of the masses, general and technical, has a place of its own. National Government at the Centre and in the State are addressing themselves to this task, and profession of Teaching is assuming importance. While details in this respect are set out in the Chapter on "Education and Culture", its importance as one of the occupations only is attempted here. To this end, it will be worth our while to know that in the year 1931 according to the Census figures, professors and teachers of all kinds and clerks and servants connected with education were only 325 comprising 302 males and 23 females. Total literates in the District in the same year were 23,483, comprising 21,948 males and 1,535 females. The percentage of literates in relation to total population was 5.05. As against this, after 30 years, i.e., in 1961, the number of persons rendering Educational Services was 3,143. Total literates in the same year were 1,51,802 out of whom 1,23,837 were males and 27,965 were females. Percentage of literates to the total population was 15.3. Though the Census figures for 1931 and 1961 are not exactly comparable, yet increase in the number of entrants in this occupation from 302 to 3,143, i e., about 10 times as much is considerable.

As regards social and economic status of the persons in this occupation, only general observations can be made as there are no reports or enquiries available highlighting the condition of persons in this occupation. Economic

condition of teachers as a class cannot be described as there are different categories of teachers like Primary School teachers, High School teachers, Lecturers, Professors, etc. All of these, however, may be grouped as middle class people in the society with fixed incomes. The rising cost of living these days is encroaching on fixed resources of all salaried persons, and teachers as a class are not an exception to the stresses and strains of the prevalent high cost of living. The outlook of veneration and sanctity towards this profession prevalent in the good old days has vanished. Neither do the persons entering this occupation take to it with an attitude of sacrifice for the sake of imparting higher values. These conditions are common throughout this vast sub-continent and are not peculiar to the District.

Medical Profession

Another important occupation might be said to be that of the Medical practitioners. The number of Doctors and other medical practitioners, *Vaidyas*, *Hakims*, Dentists, Nurses, Midwives, etc., according to 1931 Census was only 189, thirty of whom were females. Taking the population of the District for that year, there was one person in medical profession, and that too not necessarily a doctor, for about 2,456 persons in the District. In the year 1961 in the medical profession there were 994 persons of whom 270 were females. This number comprised all those working in Hospitals, Sanatoria, Nursing Homes, Maternity Homes and in *Unani*, *Ayurvedic*, Allopathic and Homoeopathic systems of medicines. Out of these 994 persons in this profession, 405 were in rural areas of the District and the remaining 589 in urban areas. Total population of the District in 1961 was 9,90,464. Thus it so works out that for 996 persons in the District there was one person in the medical profession. Out of the total population of the District rural population consisted of 8,52,387 persons for whom there were 405 persons in the medical profession, while for the urban population which numbered only 1,38,077 there were 589 persons in the medical profession. In the rural areas there was thus one person in medical profession for 2,104 persons the same number as obtained for the whole of the District in the year 1931; while in the urban areas, the proportion was one medical professional for only 234 persons. This disparity indirectly speaks of the paucity of medical facilities in the rural areas, and shows that persons entering this occupation prefer urban areas to the rural, in order to make a living. Of course, the Government are aware of this condition in the profession and efforts are being made to divert medical practitioners to the rural areas. Poverty of the rural population, dry as dust atmosphere in the villages and lack of proper educational and other facilities are some of the causes preventing the prospective medical practitioners from establishing in the rural areas. This feature of the profession is more or less common all over the Country. Economic condition of the persons in this profession might be said to be good because the persons in this profession deal in the matter of life and death, and one is always prepared to stake everything for a relief from disease and postpone death. Fresh entrants in this occupation, however, have to face initial difficulties and competition, but once

established in the practice, limits to the exploitation of the field are only set by conscience. There is a considerable scope for entrants in this occupation, in the District as elsewhere.

Legal Profession

Profession of Lawyers may be said to be the legacy left over by the Britishers. One does not come across the appellants and defendents being represented by the lawyers in the olden days. Justice used to be administered by the King or his representatives, or the aggrieved parties used to settle the dispute among themselves or through Panchas and at times even resorted to arms. With the introduction of British administration, English became the language of the Courts and the lawyers as a class emerged, being well-versed in the intricacies of the law, which being in English, was beyond the comprehension of the laity. In the 'thirties of the current Century i.e., in 1931 there were only 134 persons in the District in this occupation, and included besides lawyer proper *mukhteers*, their clerks and petition writers. In the year 1961 this number had increased to 172 and included pleaders, solicitors, *mukhteers*, *munshis* etc. It means than within a period of about 30 years the increase in the number of persons in this occupation was only 38 i.e., an addition of one person a year. This shows indirectly that the occupation in the District has not been found to be paying. As a matter of fact, the pace of fresh legislation at the Central and State levels had increased after Independence and interpretation of law is becoming more and more complicated. Universities and Colleges are bringing out fresh law graduates yearly. Inspite of this, District being not economically advanced, occupational growth is sluggish generally and appears to be more so in this case as there is no State policy for supporting its development as in the case of Education and Medical professions.

PUBLIC SERVICES

Every degree, diploma or certificate holder these days, aims as a goal of his life, at securing a job in the Central or State Government's administrative set-up. From this point of view it will be interesting to find out the increase in the number of persons joining these services. In the year 1931, there were 1,712 persons including 25 females in the service of the State in the District. There were 59 persons including 14 females in the Municipal and other Local Body services. As against this in the year 1961 there were 1,747 persons including 19 females in the administrative departments and offices of State Government, 459 persons in quasi-Government organisations, Municipalities and Local Boards and 37 persons in administrative departments and offices of Central Government. Taken together, total number of persons in 1961 had increased to 2,243 as against 1,771 in the year 1931, an increase of 472 persons over a span of thirty years. Inspite of an all-round increase in the Governmental activities in the economic and other spheres, the employment opportunities in the District remained at a low level simply because economy of the District is such that it does not afford much scope for development. This aspect of the economy has been

brought out in the chapters on 'Industries' and 'Economic Trends' in this Volume. Service conditions and the scales of pay under the Central, State Governments and Municipalities are being improved but as stated earlier because of the rising cost of living all persons in fixed income categories are facing hard times everywhere.

DOMESTIC AND PERSONAL SERVICES

Retailers and Whole-Salers

In the sphere of commerce, retailing and whole-saling of commodities are important occupations. As the Census classifications under retail and wholesale trade are not uniform, for the sake of general comparability figures for certain groups of retail and whole-sale trade are taken for 1951 and 1961 Censuses. The figures for 1951 Census are taken here for comparison as classification of wholesale and retail trade for the District as such being not available for 1931 Census. The retail trading in cereals, pulses, spices, dairy products, eggs, sugar, etc., in 1951 engaged 3,304 persons, while in 1961 the number had increased to 5,123. In retail trade in textiles and leather goods the number of persons was 1,010 in 1951. This had increased to 1,236 in 1961. Retail trading in firewood, charcoal, etc., engaged 106 persons only in 1951, while in 1961 the number had increased to 154. *Pan*, bidis and cigarette retailers in 1951 were 400, and their number had increased to 763 in 1961. Retailers in wine and liquor in the year 1951 were 159. In 1961 there were only 150 such retailers. This decrease may be attributed to the Government's policy of prohibition and dry areas. Generally, therefore, one finds an increase in the number of persons in the occupation of retail trade.

In connection with whole-sale trade there were 238 persons in 1951 dealing in whole-sale of food stuffs but in 1961 there were 693 whole-salers in cereals and pulses. There were some 64 whole-salers in 1961 in all kinds of fabrics and textile products alone as against 151 whole-salers in commodities other than food stuffs in 1951. The set of figures given above for retail and whole-sale trade are not comparable. However, it may be concluded that the number of persons in retail and whole-sale trade had increased during the decade 1951-61 in the District. Reason for this increase may be sought mainly in the increase of population in the District during the period from 7.58 lakhs to 9.90 lakhs. In order to cater to the needs of about 3 lakhs of additional population some addition in the retail and whole-sale activity of food stuffs etc., is inevitable.

Money-Lending

Another occupation in the commercial sphere might be taken as money-lending business. In the year 1951, there were 458 money-lenders in the District, while in 1961 there were 129 money-lenders. This decrease in the number of money-lenders might be attributed to the Government's policy of

making co-operative and other credit facilities available and stricter regulations governing money-lenders business.

Hotel-Keeping

The present era of industrialization has ushered in certain changes in the living conditions. Important among these changes is the facility of "dining out" in hotels, restaurants, etc. Keeping hotels, restaurant and eating-houses has become an important occupation. In this respect the District record is not encouraging, for in the year 1951 there were 508 persons engaged in this occupation, while in 1961 there were 401. It is difficult to find out reasons for this decrease in the number of persons, looking to the general growth of this occupation elsewhere. The difference may be due to the nature of data for two censuses.

Cycle Repairing

From amongst the means of conveyances, bicycle has become a common man's vehicle. Since bicycles have come to be manufactured in the Country on a large scale, their prices became low and came within the purchasing power of the low-income groups in the society. With the increase in the number of cycles and cycleowners, cycle repairing has become an occupation by itself. As very little mechanical skill is required in repairing bicycles and very little capital for setting up a repairing shop, a number of such shops are found not only in cities and towns but also in villages. However, in the year 1951 there were only 68 persons engaged in this occupation. By 1961 the number of persons in this occupation increased to 224, i.e., about three-fold increase within a decade.

Domestic Services

Occupations like, those of *dhobis*, barbers, tailors, and domestic servants such as maid-servants, cooks, etc., have undergone a change everywhere. These occupations falling under domestic services, were in the first instance followed by persons of certain definite castes only in the olden days. With the gradual removal of caste distinctions, these occupations are now being pursued by other castes also. For example many laundries are being managed by the castes other than those of washerman. Tailoring business is no more confined to a particular group of people as it was previously. Scheduled castes, which previously never used to be employed as cooks or even for house-hold work like washing of utensils, etc., are now being employed for these duties. Besides this, in the olden days persons following the occupation used to be attached to particular high caste families from generation to generation. As a matter of fact in the joint-family system of olden days these persons used to be considered as members of the joint-families. Remuneration for the services of these persons used to be paid in kind annually at the time of the harvesting. Even now in villages barbers, washermen, etc., are paid annually for their services by all the persons whom they serve. However, all these things are changing, and the change is more markedly found in urban areas. Barbers have now their haircutting

saloons, washermen have their laundry shops, tailors have their big establishments, where customers are served. Instead of personal relations which existed in the olden days, strictly commercial relations have come to prevail. Changes in respect of these domestic occupations are noticeable everywhere. For want of any survey of family-budget enquiry into the economic conditions of persons engaged in these occupations for the District, it is not possible to state anything on the topic of their economic conditions. As such, only the numerical strength of persons in these occupations as available in the census data for the years 1951 and 1961 are given below.

The number of tailors in the District in the year 1951 was 1,545. The number of persons in this group as per 1961 Census was 3,154. This increase by nearly double the figure for 1951 might be due to the inclusion of the persons making raincoats and headgears in 1961, or due to an increase in the population of the District, or as a result of changed pattern of occupation.

Washermen in the year 1951 numbered 261. In the year 1961 there were 453 persons in this occupation. Here also the increase is nearly double that of 1951. Barbers in the District numbered, 1,021 in the year 1951. In the year 1961 there were 1,128 persons in this occupation. Cooks and domestic servants together were 723 in 1951, while in 1961 there were only 671 persons. Thus it appears that the number of persons engaged in rendering domestic services had generally increased over a decade, except in the case of cooks and domestic servants.

It is difficult to say as to how far the increase in the numbers in certain occupations is due to better economic conditions obtaining in the occupations, liking for them or other causes. In view of the substantial increase in the population of the District, it appears natural that the number of persons in particular occupations had also increased. Decline in the number such as in the occupational group of cooks and domestic servants might be due to availability of other and better employment opportunities, changes in the census classification or some other reasons. Definite analysis in this respect is not possible, because of the limitations of the data available and non-availability of appropriate data.

CHAPTER IX

ECONOMIC TRENDS

It is the availability of natural resources and their exploitation which form the basis of economic changes. West Nimar District in this respect has a large area of fertile alluvial soil along the Narmada valley and perennial water source of the river Narmada flowing through the District. But besides these, there are no other natural resources in the shape of minerals, etc., through the exploitation of which alone a face-lift can be given to the economy of a particular tract. Agriculture is, therefore, the main-stay of population in the District. The industries like cotton ginning, pressing, *dal* and oil mills, which are wholly dependent on agriculture, exist on a small-scale, providing wherewithal only to a small portion of the population. No large-scale or heavy industries of any type exist in the District.

For depicting the pattern of living in the District and changes therein over a period of years, only data available are the decennial census figures of population in different occupations. The limitations of these data are well-known, since concepts, classification and connotations used from one census to another differ widely, making any comparison, much less any categorical conclusions on the basis of data, impossible. Yet, there being no other data to fall back upon, different census figures in this respect are presented below.—

	1911	1921	1931	1951	1961
Total workers[1]	2,36,497	2,16,793	2,40,630	3,75,337	5,15,433
(1) **Pasture and Agriculture**	1,43,819	1,54,957	1,90,417	3,17,677	4,32,242
	(60.81)	(71.47)	(79.13)	(84.63)	(83.85)
(2) **Industry**	16,128	17,100	13,337	28,056	34,999
	(6.81)	(7.88)	(5.54)	(7.49)	(6.79)
(3) **Transport**	1,335	717	1,204	1,467	1,839
	(0.56)	(0.33)	(0.50)	(0.39)	(0.35)
(4) **Trade**	8,044	9,863	7,565	11,397	12,393
	(3.40)	(4,08)	(3.14)	(3.03)	(2.40)
(5) **Miscellaneous**	67,171	34,156	28,107	16,740	33,960
	(28.40)	(15.75)	(11.69)	(4.46)	(6.58)

1. Total number of "workers" for different censuses are worked out on the basis of a Note on Working Force Estimate 1901-61 as per Appendix I included in the Census of India, Paper No. 1 of 1962.

Data as above indicate no change in the pattern of livelihood over a period of nearly 50 years. With the increasing population there is an increasing pressure on land. Occupations other than agriculture, appear to have failed in providing wherewithal to the growing numbers Taking the figures in miscellaneous and services group of occupations, the percentages appear to be on the decline for different Census periods. This phenomenon coupled with increasing percentages in agriculture, may be due to the shifting of population to agricultural pursuits from miscellaneous and service groups. In olden times large number of persons used to eke out their existence by serving the upper and middle class people in the society. With the breaking-up of joint-family system, stresses and strains of economic conditions and the ideas of equality of different classes, a number of persons coming under miscellaneous occupations group might have fallen back upon agriculture, having no skill or opportunities to follow other occupations in the society. Industry, transport and trade, do not show any definite trends. Rise or fall in percentages for different census periods are nominal and might be generally attributed to the changes in the concepts and classification of persons in these groups for different censuses.

Taking the economic status classification of the population for different censuses as it is *viz.*, Actual Workers, Workers, and Self-Supporting Persons, etc., and treating the persons in these categories as economically active persons, the number of dependents in different occupations per economically active person, works out as under. The figures regarding number of dependents separately for different livelihood classes are not available for 1931 and 1961 Censuses.—

Year	Pasture and Agriculture	Industry	Transport	Trade	Miscellaneous Occupations
1911	0.53	0.72	0.74	0.70	0 13
1921	0.75	0.97	1.34	1.23	0.60
1931	—	—	—	—	—
1951	0.91	1.10	1.94	1.90	1.74

It is difficult to draw any conclusions from the above figures relating to the number of dependents upon an economically active persons, because of changes made in the definitions of economically active persons from one Census to another. However, broadly it may be said, on the basis of figures as above, that the number of dependents on economically active persons in agriculture was generally low. Exception to this appears in the miscellaneous and services group for the years 1911 and 1921. This may be explained by the fact that in olden days, miscellaneous and services, which comprised domestic services, etc., were being carried on practically by all members in the family and, therefore, the number of dependents was less. It is not possible, however, to explain satisfactorily the low number of dependents in miscllaneous and service group in earlier years even as compared to agriculture, in which latter sector also the whole families worked in the fields.

As compared to 1911, and 1921 the number of dependents in 1951 had increased both in agriculture and miscellaneous group. As a matter of fact, as compared to the figures in 1911, and 1921, the number of dependents per economically active persons appears to have increased practically in all livelihood classes. This general increase might be explained partly by the awakening among all livelihood classes to educate their children at least up to a certain standard, which implies dependence of children on their parents up to a certain age. Greater number of dependents in occupations other than agriculture is easily expalined as there are no opportunities of employment in industry, transport, and trade. Industry affords some possibilities of employment to women, children, and to that extent the number of dependents in this class is lower as compared to the number in transport and trade. Increase in the number of dependents in miscellaneous and service group in the year 1951 might be partly expalined by the change in the social out-look of the classes comprising this group. Ideas of equality of all classes in the society have set the lower classes in the society, at least in urban areas, to imitate the middle class people. This has led the women-fold in the lower classes to desist from practising any gainful occupation as in olden times, and compulsory education kept children in these classes wholly dependent on the worker in the family. According to 1961 Census, as against 5,15,438 "workers" there were 4,75,031 "non-workers" in the District for all occupational classes together. This gives a proportion of 0.92 dependents per economically active person. In the rural areas of the District the proportion of "non-workers" to "worker" was 0.82, while in the urban areas this proportion was 1.86 "non-workers" to a "worker". Dependence of certain persons on certain others is as much a fact of economic as well as social change, and in these days of tremendous social changes, it is difficult to explain the increase or decrease in the number of dependents in a particular livelihood class categorically. The fact, however, remains that the proportion of dependents on economically active persons in different livelihood classes as found in the Table above, does not deviate from the generally known pattern, *viz.*, dependents in agriculture, and miscellaneous and service groups of livelihood classes are lower as compared to other livelihood classes. The 1961 total figures also indirectly support this statement as the proportion of "non-workers" to a "worker" in the rural areas was only 0.82 against 1.86 in urban areas, where employment opportunities for women and children are lesser than in the rural areas, where agricultural activities predominate.

Price Level

The level of prices and wages in the District may be studied with advantage in order to know the economic condition of the people at different times. Majority of the people in the District, about 43.64 per cent of the total population in 1961, depended on agriculture for its livelihood. "The agriculturists of Nimar are noted for their industry and often produce far better crops from less promising soils............"[1]

1. Indore State Gazetteer, 1908, p. 214.

Wheat, rice, jowar, makka, bajra, gram, tur, cotton, tilli, and alsi are the agricultural products in the District.

Prior to the great famine of 1899-1900 which caused devastation on a large scale in men and material, the prices of food grains in the District were highest in the year 1897. This was a year of short rainfall but its consequences were not severe. "In 1899 the rains failed utterly. The Kharif crops were deried up and Rabi could not be sown."[1] In this year rainfall was only 8.39 inches. The price of jowar was 18.06 seers a rupee, wheat 11.09 seers, gram 14.02 and tur *dal* was 16 seers a rupee. In the year 1900 there was a general rise in prices of all these foodgrains, the prices being 10.04 seers of jowar, 9.04 seers of wheat, gram 10.04 seers and tur *dal* 7.65 seers a rupee. It appears from these figures that the impact of famine of 1899-1900 was actually felt on the price-level of the year 1900. During subsequent years the price situation of the foodgrains was generally easier up-to the year 1904, which can be seen from the following figures.—

(In seers per Re.)

Year	Jawar	Wheat	Gram	Tur *Dal*
1901	15.06	10.03	12.01	N. A.
1902	16.03	10.09	13.07	11.35
1903	26.04	13.00	16.04	10.50
1904	26.07	13.08	18.05	11.20
1905	19.30	12.55	15.55	10.00

The years 1903 and 1904 appear to be comparatively good years in respect of prices of foodgrains, which may be attributed to plentiful rainfall which was 34.51 inches in 1902-03 and 29.96 inches in 1903-04. The year 1905 was one of ordinary rainfall and the conditions of *kharif* and *rabi* harvests were also ordinary, the anna notations of harvests for the year 1903-04 and 1904-05 being 12,9,6 and 7½ annas for jowar and bajra, wheat, gram and makka, respectively for the year 1903-04. For 1904-05 the figures were 4¾, 7, 6¾ and 2½ annas for jowar and bajra, wheat, gram and makka, respectively.

The prices for foodgrains in the years that followed upto 1913 were.—

(In seers per Re.)

Year	Jewar	Wheat	Gram	Rice
1906	14½	9¾	10¼	7
1907	17½	11	12	6¼
1908	9	7	8	5
1909	15½	7½	8½	5¼
1910	13	11	15	8
1911	34	15	17	8
1912	13	9	11½	5½
1913	12¾	8¼	13¼	5½

From the Table above the year 1908 appears to be one of the highest prices. The reason for this general increase in prices might be sought in the

1. Assessment Report on the Khargone Division of the Nimar District, p. 27.

famine conditions that prevailed in the year 1908. The cause of famine was the shortage and ill-distribution of rainfall in the year 1907. While from June 1906 to may 1907 the rainfall in the District was 39 inches 39 cents, that from June, 1907 to May, 1908 it was only 16 inches 96 cents. In anna notation the harvest for different crops happened to be 7, 10, 10 and 5 for jowar and bajra, wheat, gram and makka, respectively for the year 1907; but in 1908 the figures were 4, 4, 5 and 4 annas for jowar and bajra, wheat, gram and makka, respectively.

The character of harvest in 1908 as indicated above justifies the rise in prices of foodgrains in year 1908.

Price position of foodgrains had improved in the year 1911, because in the year 1910-11 there was an all-round improvement in the character of harvest for all crops, the anna notation for the character of harvest being 12, 9, 9 and 14 annas for jowar and bajra, wheat, gram and makka, respectively.

From what is stated above it may appear that reasons for fluctuations in prices were the good or bad monsoons and consequent good or bad harvests. The causes of fluctuations in prices up to the out-break of the first World War were mainly of a local character.

This situation was, however, changed when the hostilities broke out in Europe. As the War progressed prices everywhere began to soar. In the year 1914, the first year of the War, prices of jowar, wheat, gram, and rice were 15,10,12 and 5½ seers a rupee, respectively.

In the year 1915 the rainfall in the District was 28.37 inches and the character of harvest in the proportion of annas was for jowar 0-13-6, for wheat 0-13-9, and for gram and maize 0-14-0 and 0-14-3, respectively.

This shows that harvest was good in respect of all crops and yet the prices of foodgrains were generally higher, jowar being sold at 13½ seers, wheat at 7¼ seers, gram at 9¾ seers and rice at 6½ seers a rupee.

The reason for the high prices, therefore, was the higher demand of foodgrains created by War conditions. This, however, does not mean that War was the only cause of high level of prices during this period. Prices of foodgrains mainly fluctuated according to the character of harvest which in its turn depended on rainfall and its proper distribution. War conditions resulting in higher demand of foodgrains was an additional outside factor introduced from 1914 to 1918 in the price situation of the District as elsewhere. The economic conditions of the decade 1911-21, which comprise the first World War period (1914-18), were described in the Census Report of the Holkar State, 1921 thus "The most marked economic features of the decade were the continued unprecedented high prices of all the necessaries of life, and dearness of labour. The

effects of the economic disturbance caused by the War penetrated to the remotest village, prices rose and, as is always the case, wages also rose with them..........".[1]

After cessation of hostilities in the year 1918 the price situation was expected to be easier but in this year untimely and ill-distributed rains coupled with annual visitation of Influenza epidemic affected the crops and kept the price level high. Generally, up to the year 1925 and 1926, "prices of agricultural produce remained high as the abnormal conditions created by the Great War took some years to disappear."[2] There was no marked change in the price-level in the District upto 1930, which can be seen from the following.—

(In seers per Re.)

Year	Jowar	Wheat	Gram	Rice	Bajra
1922	10	4½	5	4	11
1923	11	7	8	4	12
1924	11	7	8	4	6
1925	8	5	7	3½	10
1926	8	5½	7	4	8
1927	10	5	5	4	9
1928	12	6	10	4	10
1929	10	6½	8¾	3¾	9¾
1930	11	6	6	4	10

It may be seen from the above Table that in the year 1925 and 1926 the prices were higher while in 1928 the price position was comparatively easier. This rise in the prices in 1925 and 1926 might be attributed to "the unsatisfactory condition of rainfall of 1925,"[3] and late rain in the year 1926 on account of which *kharif* crops suffered in the District. In 1925 rainfall was only 19.22 inches and in 1926, 20.68 inches. Comparatively easier trend in prices in the year 1928 might be attributed to reasonable rainfall in the years 1927 and 1928 as compared to 1925 and 1926. Rainfall in the year 1927 was 27.29 inches and in 1928, 29.17 inches. This had an effect on the character of harvest which was better and the prices of foodstuffs were easier.

From the year 1931 to 1938 the prices of foodgrains ruled easier. This was mainly due to the better harvest conditions obtaining in practically all the years. The year 1934 showed all-round lower prices of foodgrains mostly because it was a year of very good rains and therefore, good harvest. The period of 'thirties was a period of world-wide economic depression. It is difficult to ascertain the reaction of this depression on the price level in the District. The general trend, however, from 1931 to 1938 being one of low prices, it may be assumed that depression in trade might have caused the lowering of prices of foodgrains. As a matter of fact,

1. Holkar State Census 1921, Vol. I, Part I, p. 15.
2. Ibid., 1931, Vol. XVI, Part I, p. 29.
3. Ibid., p. 8.

population in the District had increased from 391 to 464 thousands from 1921 to 1931. During this period there were also no epidemics, etc., in the District. These conditions might be expected to step up the demand for foodgrains inspite of the economic depression. The reason, therefore, for generally lower level of prices appears to be better harvest conditions of crop in successive years rather than lower demand due to economic depression. Prices from the year 1931 to 1938 were as under.—

(In seers per Re.)

Year	Jowar	Wheat	Gram	Rice	Bajra
1931	18	8½	7	5	16
1932	16	12	15	7	20
1933	15	11	17	5½	14
1934	18	12	16	6	16
1935	15	12	16	6	15
1936	15	12	15	6	16
1937	15	11	16	7½	15¾
1938	13¼	9¼	13	8	14

With the year 1938 once again the world economy enters the period of war time stresses and strains. However the effect of impending War on price level was not felt immediately and the rise in prices noticeable in the year 1938 as compared to the previous years was due mainly to the local conditions. During this year in the District damage was caused to crops because of excessive rains. The rainfall recorded during the year was 35.69 inches compared to 28.96½ inches in the previous year. Damage to the crops was, however, not severe. In the year 1939, price situation became easier, as compared to the year 1938. Jowar was sold at 16 seers a rupee, wheat 12 seers, gram 14 seers, rice 7 and Bajra 17 seers in the year 1939. The prices from 1939 to 1945 in the District were as under.—

(In seers per Re.)

Year	Jowar	Wheat	Gram	Rice	Bajra
1939	16	12	14	7	17
1940	13	10	10	7	12
1941	15½	10	12½	5¼	16
1942	15	9¼	10¼	4¾	14½
1943	7½	4¾	5¼	3	7½
1944	5½	3½	4	2½	6
1945	5½	3¼	5½	2½	6

From the above Table it appears that even during the Second World War period upto the year 1942 foodgrain prices in the District remained unaffected because of War conditions. However, the then Government of Indore State had taken measures in the year 1941 for controlling the whole-sale and retail prices of food stuffs, namely, wheat, jowar, makka and tur *dal*. In the year 1942, the

Government prohibited the export of wheat produced in the State. Merchants dealing in grains of all kinds were ordered to furnish periodically statistics of each commodity held by them and sales thereof during the month. Every person selling wheat and jowar in the State was ordered to display the whole-sale and retail prices of wheat and jowar fixed by the Government. In the beginning, the State Government carried on procurement of food-grains and their distribution through licensees, but later to ensure effective control especially in regard to distribution, Government stepped in to make purchases on their own account and arrange for the distribution of foodgrains. In the year 1944, the cheap grains scheme designed with a view to making available staple foodgrains such as wheat and millets to the poorer sections of the population at concession rates was introduced throughout the districts in a manner suited to local circumstances. Under the Scheme, the consumers were afforded concession in the prices of wheat, millets, moong and gram as under.—

(In seers per Re.)

Income Range	Malwi and Chandausi	Wheat Pissi	Millets	Moong	Gram
Rs. 60 p.m. or less	4	4½	6½	4⅓	5⅓
Rs. 61 to Rs. 120 p.m.	3¾	4½	6	4⅓	5
Above Rs. 120 p.m. (Non-concessionists)	3½	4	5	3½	4

It is apparent from the foregoing chart, that the prices in the District as elsewhere, especially from 1941 onwards were controlled prices fixed by Government. The control of foodgrains continued even after the cessation of hostilities in the year 1945. In the year 1948 the *kharif* crops in the District were adversely affected on account of excessive rainfall. Upto the year of formation of Madhya Bharat, i.e., in 1948 there was no rationing of foodgrains on a systematic basis anywhere except at Indore and Mhow towns. The rationing at all District and Tahsil headquarters was introduced in the year 1949. As such practically all urban population in the District was brought under rationing scheme. There was no rationing in rural areas anywhere, but as the crops in the District failed during the year the cultivators had to be supplied with grains. A few centres were, therefore, opened in the mofussil for supplying grains worth as rupee or so per head per week. The rationing was non-statutory and was based on the family ration cards.

There was no rural rationing in the year 1950-51, though the rainfall in the District was untimely and unevenly distributed affecting both *kharif* and *rabi* crops in the District adversely. Free movement of foodgrains by head-loads upto 20 seers as also free sale and purchase upto that quantity for the bonafide needs of the producers and consumers was allowed in rural areas in the year 1950-51. As a deficit area 19,600 maunds of wheat and 76,000 maunds of jowar were allotted to the District for distribution.

The year 1951-52 was the first year of the First Five Year Plan. The Grow More Food Campaign programme launched in 1949-50 was accelerated during the year. However, because of insufficient rainfall *kharif* crops in the District were affected. Non-statutory type of rationing continued on the basis of family ration cards in the towns of the District. The year 1952-53 was one of relaxation of controls over foodgrains. There was a continuous supply of all commodities in the market during the season. As a result, in the initial months, foodgrains were available to all in plenty and at prices lower than the rates prevailing before the relaxation of controls. In the beginning of 1953-54 the price level of jowar, bajra, maize, etc., remained at a normal level due to relaxation of control measures. However, due to untimely rains in the District *kharif* crops were ruined and scarcity conditions prevailed. As a result, upward trend in the price was in evidence which lasted upto July. By the end of September due to satisfactory rains elsewhere, hope for food *kharif* crops revived and prices ruled normal. In this year (1953-54), the yield of principal crops in the District was 6.6 thousand tons of wheat, 47.3 thousand tons of jowar, 12.8 thousand tons of bajra, 2.5 thousand tons of gram. The yield of crops from 1954-55 to 1957-58 and whole-sale prices were.—

(in '000 tons)

	1954-55	1955-56	1956-57	1957-58
1. Wheat	10.6	19.9	16.2	12.6
2. Jowar	70.9	80.1	132.3	55.1
3. Bajra	12.2	10.5	8.9	7.6
4. Gram	4.1	8.5	9.0	2.0
5. Tur	6.0	8.7	7.5	5.3

From the above Table, it might be seen that position regarding the yield of crops was generally improving upto 1956-57. The whole-sale prices of these foodgrains in the District for corresponding period were.—

(in Rs. per maund)

	1954	1955	1956	1957
1. Wheat	14.75	14.28	16.59	16.34
2. Jowar	6.78	6.78	12.28	12.92
3. Bajra	7.09	7.19	12.36	14.39
4. Gram	11.53	7.14	11.06	12.36
5. Tur	9.09	7.75	11.16	11.80

It may be observed from the above Table that while in cases of certain foodgrains during a particular year higher yield had resulted in a lowering of prices, in certain others, inspite of the higher yield prices had registered a rise. In case of wheat in the year 1957-58, inspite of the lower yield of crop price had fallen though very slightly. In case of jowar, the yield of crops was 132.3 thousand tons in 1956-57 as compared to 80.1 thousand tons in 1955-56, but

surprisingly enough the price of the commodity had registered a rise in 1956-57 of nearly double that in the year 1955-56. In case of bajra, continuous lower yield and corresponding rise in prices was a regular trend. In case of gram, inspite of the higher yield of crop during 1956-57 there was a rise in price over the previous year. Such unexpected trends in prices of the commodities can only be explained by totality of the economic conditions not only in the District alone but also in the surrounding areas and in the Country as a whole. Taking the whole-sale prices for the month of March in the year 1958 and the prices in the same month in 1957, there was a fall in the price of wheat of both superior and medium variety. There was a rise in the price of a medium variety of rice, but a fall in the price of coarse variety from March 1957 to March, 1958. There was a fall in the price of jowar from March, 1957 to March, 1958. This fall in the price of jowar might be attributed to the rise in the out-turn of jowar crop from 67.6 thousand tons in 1957-58 to 73.6 thousand tons in the 1958-59. Similarly, there was also an increase in the yield of wheat crop in the year 1958-59, being 15.4 thousand tons as compared to 6.0 thousand tons in 1957-58 and wheat prices as a result were lower in 1958. Whole-sale prices in the month of March from 1958 to 1961 in the District for wheat, jowar, rice and gram were.—

(In Rs. per maund)

Commodity	Variety	1958	1959	1960	1961
Wheat	Superior	19.58	20.21	17.00	19.00
	Medium	16.15	18.17	15.00	17.00
	Coarse	12.75	16.12	13.00	14.00
Rice	Medium	24.00	22.50	21.00	27.00
	Coarse	18.40	18.50	17.00	22.00
Jowar	White	9.12	12.25	12.50	14.00
Gram	White	12 59	17.19	12.00	17.00

From the above Table it appears that from 1958 to 1961, the year 1960 was one of lower prices generally for important foodgrains in the District. In the year 1962-63 the price of wheat was Rs. 44.82, that of rice Rs. 56, jowar Rs. 31.85 and gram Rs. 35 per quintal, respectively. In the year 1963-64, there was a general rise in the prices of all these foodgrains. The production of wheat had fallen in this year from 28,675 tons in 1962-63 to 25,298 tons. The price of wheat was Rs. 54.27 per quintal in 1963-64 against Rs. 44.82 per quintal of the previous year. The production of rice in 1963-64 was 6,182 tons against 4,771 tons in the previous year. The price, however, increased to Rs. 58.75 per quintal in 1963-64. There was a fall in the production of jowar in 1963-64 over the previous year, the quantities being 84,951 and 1,18,432 tons, respectively. Inspite of this fall in production there was a fall in the price from Rs. 31.85 per quintal in 1962-63 to Rs. 28.03 per quintal in 1963-64. There was substantial increase in the price of gram from Rs. 35 per quintal in 1962-63 to Rs. 46.36 per quintal in 1963-64.

From the data regarding prices presented in the foregoing pages, it is difficult to establish causal relationship between production and prices. While yield of crops may affect prices, it is not certain that better yield will definitely bring down the price and vice versa. It may, however, be stated that prices in the Second Five Year Plan period have generally registered an increase over the First Five Year Plan period and the rising trend continues in the initial years of the Third Plan period also.

Wage Level

In the first decade of the present Century (about 1905-07) the rates of daily wages ruling in the District for skilled labour were from 6 to 10 annas. For unskilled labour, rates of wages varied from 2 to 6 annas. Women were generally paid at half the rate of males. At Barwaha, wages were higher than in other parts of the District, it being on the railway line. The agricultural labourers were generally paid in kind. The carpenter, blacksmith and barber received a share of the village grain.

The decade 1911-21 began badly for the District. Failure of rain in the District in the year 1911 caused considerable distress. The famine in 1911-12 was "restricted to five parganas of Nimar district covering an area of about 1,430 sq. miles with a population of nearly a lakh and half, consisting mainly of agricultural and labouring classes." There was, however, no loss of human life by starvation. Population in the affected area remained intact because of the prompt action taken by the Government to relieve the distress. In the years 1911 and 1912, therefore, there was no appreciable increase in the wage-rate in the District. The average wage-rates for skilled workers in the District in the year 1911 and 1912 were annas 11, and 0-11-6, respectively. The unskilled worker was paid on an average annas 5 daily. The year 1913 in the District was one of scarcity or partial famine of food and fodder. The wage-rates of skilled and unskilled labourers showed an increase in this year. The rate for skilled worker reached annas 12 per day while that of unskilled worker annas 0-5-6.

The year 1914-18, was a period of the First World War. During this period, the conditions in agriculture were generally satisfactory in the sense, that there was no scarcity or famine in the District. However, "The Great War resulted in a rise in the prices of commodities caused some distress, but the high value of agricultural produce was a source of great profit to the agriculturists."[1] This was reflected also in a rise in wage levels in the District for skilled as well as unskilled workers as under.—

(In Rs. Per day)

Year	Skilled	Unskilled
1914	0-13-6	0-6-3
1915	0-14-6	0-7-6
1916	1-0-0	0-8-3
1917	1-0-3	0-8-9
1918	1-3-6	0-10-9

1. Ibid., p. 28.

As the War ended in the year 1918, the conditions were expected to be easy, but this was not the case because in the year 1918 rain again failed, and different parts of the Holkar State, of which the District formed part, were affected. Besides this, the tendency of the wage-rates to stick to a level, especially higher, once reached, also worked and there was thus a further increase in the wage-rates of skilled and unskilled workers in the District. In the years 1919 and 1920, therefore, the wage rates were.—

(In Rs. per day)

Year	Skilled	Unskilled
1919	1-6-0	0-11-0
1920	1-7-6	0-11-9

Describing the conditions of the decade 1921-31, the Census Report, 1931, observed "A deficient rainfall in 1920 led to a contraction of the cultivated area in 1921. The influenza epidemics of the preceding three years not only reduced the numerical strength of the adult working population of the agricultural classes, but also sapped the vitality of the survivours........".[1] The Report further adds that "In the first half of the decade the prices of agricultural produce remained high as the abnormal conditions created by the Great War took some years to disappear".[2] As this was the case with prices, wages naturally stood at higher level. The wage-rate of skilled worker at Khargone in the District was Rs. 2 per day from 1921 onwards to 1929 and for unskilied worker Re. 1 from 1921 to 1924. "From 1925 the downward trend in prices became marked and by 1930 was very low..........The lowering of the wages of labour was inevitable, but it did not entail any serious hardship to the labourer as grain became cheap".[3] Commensurate with the level of prices from 1925 onwards the wage-rate of unskilled worker at Khargone in the District came down from Re. 1 per day to annas 12 per day. On the contrary, wage-rate of skilled worker came down to Rs. 1-4-0 per day only in the year 1930. The reason for this late show-down in the wage-rates of skilled workers, as against these of unskilled workers is not difficult to seek. The workers in skilled occupations because of their limited number are always in a position to bargain for higher wage-rates and maintain the upper wage level, once attained, for a longer period, but unskilled workers, because of their larger numbers are not in such a favourable position and their wage-rates are affected immediately.

The 'thirties of the current Century was a period of world-wide trade depression. Employment, wages and prices everywhere were generally low. The main factory industry in the District is cotton ginning and pressing which is dependent on the cotton textile industry. This latter industry was very hard hit during the depression period. Many of the cotton ginning and pressing factories

1. Ibid.
2. Ibid., p. 29.
3. Ibid.

were closed during the period and there was unemployment amongst the industrial workers. The relieving feature of this period was that prices of the essential consumer goods were also low, and therefore, reduced wage-rates during this period did not entail serious hardships to the working class.

The position was relieved by the out-break of the Second World War of 1939-1945. Prices of the necessities of life increased steeply from 1941 onwards, and there was everywhere a demand for increase in wages to meet the rising cost of living. Some idea of the wage increase in agriculture in the District at the beginning of the Second World War, i.e., 1938-39 and in the year 1949-50 can be had from the following.—

Operations		Year 1938-39	1949-50
		Rs. As. Ps.	Rs. As. Ps.
Ploughing	Men	0—4—0	0—10—9
Sowing	Men	0—4—6	0—13—10
	Women	0—3—3	0—11—3
Weeding	Men	0—3—6	0—10—5
	Women	0—2—6	0—8—5
Harvesting	Men	0—5—0	1—2—0
	Women	0—3—9	1—0—2

From the above figures it may be seen that wage increase at the end of Second World War over the period at the beginning of War, was on an average from 175 to 275 per cent. The highest percentage increase was in case of wages for harvesting operations and lowest in case of ploughing operations.

With the introduction of Minimum Wages Act, 1948 (Central) to Madhya Bharat on the 1st April, 1951, the minimum wage-rates in the Scheduled Industries were fixed under the Act. Accordingly, one of the important industries in the District coming under the purview of this Act, for which minimum wages were so fixed, was cotton ginning and pressing industry. Different rates of wages were fixed for different categories of workers on monthly as well as daily wage basis. For the workers in ginning factories, who could not be classified under any recognized categories, and who may, therefore, be taken as unskilled workers, minimum wage-rate was fixed at Rs. 1.25 for male and Rs. 1.12 for female. Wage-rate for similar workers in pressing factories was Rs. 1.62 for male and Rs. 1.50 for female.

In the Oil Mill industry, which is next important industry in the District, the minimum wage-rates for skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled workers were Rs. 52, Rs. 42.25 and Rs. 30 per month, respectively.

Besides these industries, minimum wages in Bidi Making, Local Authority, Rice, *Dal* and Flour Mills, Road Construction, Stone-Crushing and Stone-

Breaking, Transport, etc., were also fixed. The minimum wage-rate for unskilled worker in all these was Re. 1 and a little above for male and Re. 1 and a little less for female worker. For example, unskilled male worker in stone-crushing and stone-breaking industry was to get a minimum wage of Rs. 1.12 and unskilled female Rs. 0.87 per day. It may, however, be remembered that the minimum wage-rates were not necessarily the prevailing wage-rates in different industries. The rates of wages above the minimum level wherever paid were not allowed to be reduced. But in case of unskilled workers such cases were rare and this measure was taken to prevent sweating and exploitation of labour. Minimum wage-rates, so fixed, however, are indicative of the trend in wage levels. Those days of paying the workers in annas and pies were definitely gone.

The minimum rates of wages as above in different industries prevailed at the time of the reorganization of the State i.e., in the year 1956. This year was also the first year of the Second Five Year Plan throughout the Country. The rising trend in the rates of wages, a legacy of the Second World War period became a settled fact in the years that followed. The Second Five Year Plan period, accelerated the process further by its larger investments in both public and private sectors, higher employment deficit finance, etc. The result of these may be seen in the necessity felt by the Government in revising the minimum rates of wages in different Scheduled Industries in the year 1959. The minimum wage-rate for unskilled workers in different industries came to the level of Rs. 1.50 for male and Rs. 1.25 for female workers.

It is not only the wage-rates in industries, but also those in agriculture which showed an upward trend. The wage-rates for reaping and harvesting operations in the District in the year 1958 (March) were Rs. 1.50 for male and Rs. 1.25 for female worker. The wage-rate for other agricultural labour, male and female were Rs. 1.13 and 0.75 paise, respectively, in the same year. There was a considerable increase in the rates of wages for skilled workers like carpenters, blacksmiths, etc. In the District their wages were quoted at Rs. 3 per day. In the year 1959 (March) there was a further rise in the rate of wages for other agricultural labour, i.e., from Rs. 1.13 in the same month of last year to Rs. 1.25. Wages of carpenter increased by 0.50 paise i.e., from Rs. 3 to Rs. 3.50 per day, while that of blacksmith remained unchanged. By 1961 i.e., the last year of Second Five Year Plan period, the wage-rate for unskilled male labour in agriculture i.e., other agricultural labourer, remained at the level of Rs. 1.25 per day, but for the skilled workers like carpenter, or blacksmith, there was an increase from Rs. 3.50 to Rs. 3.75 and Rs. 3.25 per day, respectively. The increase in the wage-rate, say for a ploughman in agriculture, who earned only annas 0-4-0 per day in 1938-39 to Rs. 1.50 in 1961, was six times as much. During the Third Five Year Plan period, i.e., in the year 1962, there was further rise in the rates of wages for skilled as well as unskilled workers. The wages of other agricultural labourer increased from Rs. 1.25 in 1961 to Rs. 1.38 per

day in 1962. The wage-rate for carpenter increased to Rs. 4 per day and that of blacksmith to Rs. 3.50 per day. During the following year, there was a fall in the wage-rate of other agricultural labourer to Rs. 1.25 per day, while the rates of wages for carpenter and blacksmith remained unchanged. In the year 1964, there was a rise in the rate of wages of other agricultural labourer from Rs. 1.25 to Rs. 1.50 per day. There was an increase in the wage-rate of blacksmith by 0.50 paise, which brought his wage-rate on par with that of a carpenter, his wage-rate remaining unchanged at Rs. 4 per day.[1] The Index Number of agricultural wages in the District with the base year (1957-58)=100, was 122.5 in 1960-61, 127.9 in the year 1961-62 and rose to 133.0 in the year 1962-63.

From the data presented above it appears that rising wages along with rising prices have, become a settled fact of current economic trends.

Standard of Living

In order to know the standard of living of the masses and classes in a particular tract or region, periodic family budget enquiries for different classes in the society are necessary. In Nimar District no such enquiries or surveys were made. The only available data which can shed some light on the topic of standard of living are those collected under the Agricultural Labour Enquiry of the Government of India, Ministry of Labour, in the year 1950-51. For purposes of the Enquiry, Zone III of the Madhya Bharat region comprised Nimar District. As the major portion of the total population in the District right from 1911 to 1961 was found to be dependent on agriculture for livelihood, the standard of living of this class at any time might be taken as a general standard. Even in case of this single class in the society i.e., agricultural labour, there are no comparable data either for any period previous to 1950-51 or after.

The composition of population in the District (Zone III) in the year 1950-51 was landowners 'and tenents' families 50 per cent of the total; non-agriculturist families 21 per cent; families of agricultural workers 29 per cent. Majority of the agricultural holdings i.e., 46.3 per cent of the total were between 10 to 25 acres. The uneconomic holding i.e., below 5 acres formed only 19.9 per cent of the total holdings. These figures indicate the substantial conditions of the peasantry in the District. The dairy-farming and sale of *ghee* were pursued as subsidiary occupations.

On an average the agricultural labour family consisted of 4.3 persons. The number of persons supported by each earner in the District was 1.6 only. Agricultural operations provided work for 190 days for male and 139 days for female labour. Non-agricultural labour provided work for 59 days for men and 23 days for female. The number of days worked in non-agricultural labour in

1. **Note.**—Rates of wages from 1958 to 1964 are for the month of March in the respective year.

Zone III, comprising Nimar District, was the highest as compared to other zones, because "of some seasonal wage employment in cotton-ginning factories."[1]

The main source of income of the family was from agricultural labour forming 57.7 per cent of the total. Next in importance to this was non-agricultural labour forming 21.8 per cent of the total. Income from cultivation of land formed 6.3 per cent; occupations other than farming 10 per cent and 4.2 per cent from other sources.

Income per family in Zone III was Rs. 365, with average earning strength of 2.7 persons. Consumption expenditure per family amounted to Rs. 332, per capita income and expenditure figures were Rs. 85 and Rs. 77, respectively.

The percentage expenditure per family on different consumption groups was.—

Group	Percentage
(1) Food	81.4
(2) Clothing and Footwear	7.2
(3) Fuel and Lighting	1.7
(4) House Rent and Repairs	—
(5) Services and Miscellaneous	9.7

Compared to other zones in the region (i.e., Madhya Bharat), percentage expenditure on "Services and Miscellaneous" Groups was the highest in the District. But this by itself cannot be taken as indicating better or higher standard of living; as this group consisted of few items like brahmin's services, tobacco, *pan-supari*, travelling and others.

From amongst food items, jowar consumption was the higest being Rs. 81.4 per family, next being maize Rs. 50.0. Expenditure on rice came to Rs. 5.7 per family. Pulses of all kinds claimed Rs. 27.1, Gur and sugar Rs. 18.7, Vegetables Rs. 5.4, milk and milk products Rs. 13.1. Clothing and footwear claimed Rs. 23.8.

If some of the above items of consumption e.g., consumption of rice, gur and sugar, milk and milk products as also clothing and footwear are taken as indicative of some standard, amounts of annual expenditure on those items for a family consisting of 4.3 members as given above do not denote any standard. Expenditure on items of nutritive food value like milk and milk products was Re. 1 per month for a family of 4.3 members, while on clothing and footwear on an average Rs. 2 per month was spent. Items of expenditure like education, medicines, recreation etc., did not figure in the list. What changes, if any, in

1. Agricultural Labour Enquiry, 1950-51, Vol. VI, p. 58.

this standard have been introduced over a period of a decade and more, say in 1961-62, there is no way of knowing for want of data, as stated earlier.

There are no data either current or old on the topic of the standard of living of the industrial workers and middle classes in the society. The industrial workers currently, after the attainment of Independence, can be said generally to be better off, than they were in pre-Independence days in the Country. This is because, good many a labour welfare enactments have been introduced by the Central Government, which have made the life of industrial workers livable. Protection of wages, provision of provident fund, gratuity, sickness insurance, etc., are introduced under different enactments in the industries in the District, as elsewhere in the Country. However, the increased cost of living everywhere is absorbing the whole of the rise in money wages and much more. The mode of living of the middle-classes in the society is although different from the working classes in agriculture and industries, yet with fresh encroachments that are being made by the rising cost of living, those having fixed incomes are struggling for bare existence and maintaining existing standards. These are the general conditions of classes and masses in the Country, and people in the District are no exception to these.

General Level of Employment

The District is essentially agricultural and rural in character. It is a cotton and oil-seed growing tract. There are no industries worth the name in the District except cotton ginning and pressing and a few oil mills. These factories generally work on seasonal basis offering employment to a large number of unskilled workers for a short duration. The proverbial under-employment in agriculture, and seasonal nature of industries, are incapable of keeping even the existing labour force fully employed, let alone offering opportunities of employment to the fresh entrants in labour market. In the urban areas of the District, employment opportunities exist for a few amongst educated persons in the Central and State Government services and under Local Bodies. Referring to the growing unemployment amongst the educated in the urban areas of the District the Employment Exchange authorities reported that the matriculate and above matric students desired clerical jobs but did not learn typing which is now-a-days an essential qualification for clerical posts. Moreover, adequate facilities for learning typing in West Nimar District were also not available. Therefore, these educated men seeing no immediate employment opportunities sought further education.

Regarding skilled and unskilled employment seekers, it was reported that the unemployed both skilled and unskilled, registered at the Exchange were not mobile and desired employment near about their home places. Immobility of labour was hampering the placement work of the Exchange.

Scope for employment for skilled and semi-skilled workers exists and especially the persons from engineering trades were reported to be in short-supply in the District.

Some idea of the level of employment based on the quarterly returns from the public and private sector establishments in different occupational groups can be had from the following.—

Description of Industries	No. of Employees as on December		
	1963	1964	1965
Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry, Fishing	1,002	1,022	1,065
Minning and Quarring	—	—	—
Manufacturing	2,722	3,133	2,802
Construction	730	829	800
Electricity, Gas, Water and sanitary services	—	14	11
Trade and Commerce	214	276	343
Transport and Communication	166	165	166
Services	8,606	9,773	9,690
Total	13,440	15,212	14,877

Apparently, from the above Table it appears that employment position in the District is improving. However, the increase might be due to a relatively higher coverage of establishments from both the sectors under the Employment Market Information Scheme.

The trends in the educated employment in the District can be seen from the following Table, giving figures on the Live Register of the Employment Exchange.—

Period ending		No. on the Live Register				
		Matric/ H S.S.	Inter	Graduate	Other	Total
December	1962	138	25	17	—	180
,,	1963	534	—	21	—	555
,,	1964	675	—	33	—	708
,,	1965	791	—	38	2	831

The disquieting trend in employement position of the educated persons becomes obvious from the above Table. The number of educated unemployed is likely to be even higher because all the employment seekers do not register themselves with the Employment Exchange.

Employment Exchange

The Employment Exchange at Khargone was started in the month of March, 1960, under the Second Five Year Plan. An idea of the work done by the

exchange can be had from the figures of registrations, submissions, placings, etc.

Year	Registrations	Placings	No. on Live Register at end of the year
1960	1,780	320	619
1961	2,641	819	1,183
1962	3,391	1,147	1,289
1963	3,877	903	1,439
1964	3,490	1,010	1,704
1965	4,565	. 925	2,037

The Employment Exchange serves all categories of employment seekers in finding employment and also helps the employers both in Public and Private Sectors in finding suitable persons for different jobs under them. Besides the placement work of the Exchange, there are following schemes in operation at the Exchange.—

1. Guide in occupational informotion.

2. Collection of Employment Market information, and

3. Vocational Guidance and Empolyment counselling.

There also exists a District Committee on Employment, which meets once in a year to advise Government in the matter of employment and unemployment conditions in the District, of which Employment Officer is the exoffieio Secretary.

NATIONAL PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The Community Development Programme under the Five Year Plans of the Centre and the State is a concerted and co-operative effort by the people as well as the Government to better the condition of the rural masses. Nation-wide Community Development Programme was launched by the Government of India in May, 1952. In so far as West Nimar is concerned, three Community Development Blocks were started on 2nd October, 1952. These were located at Rajpur, Kasrawad and Thikari. By 2nd October, 1962, i.e., within a decade, this number had increased to 13. Of these 13 Blocks, three *viz.*, Pansemal and Gogaon were started on 1st April, 1962 and one at Pati was started on 1st October, 1962. All these three Blocks were at pre-extension stage of development by 1962. Another Block at Zirnia was started as Tribal Development Block on 1st October, 1962. Three Blocks started on 2nd October, 1962, i.e., Rajpur, Kasrawad and Thikari were at second stage of development by 1962. Block at Barwani, started on the 1st April, 1957 is a Special Multipurpose Tribal Development Block. Bhikangaon Block was started on 1st April, 1956 and by 1962, was

in the first stage of development. Khargone Block was started on 2nd October, 1956; Sendhwa on 1st April, 1959; Maheshwar on 1st October, 1960; and Barwaha on 1st April, 1961. All these four Blocks *viz.*, Khargone, Sendhwa, Maheswar and Barwaha were at first stage of development by 1965.

The object of Community Development Programme is to bring about an improvement in all aspects of rural life. As such Block Development covers a wide range of activities. It is not only a scheme for improvements in agriculture, animal husbandry and veterinary, minor irrigation, rural arts, crafts and village industries, but also the schemes for health and rural sanitation, education and social education, co-operation, rural housing, communication, *etc.*, are taken up in the Block Development areas. The achievements in all these different spheres of activities for some of the Blocks are described below.—

Rajpur, Kasrawad and Thikari were the first to be started in the District. All the three were under the second stage of development. In view of the reorganization of the State in the year 1956 data regarding progress of Block Development activities for integrating units are conveniently presented for the Second Five Year Plan period. Area in sq. miles covered by these Blocks is 341 (883.187 sq. Kms), 408.31 (1,056.715 sq. Kms) and 226.6 (585.337 sq. Kms) being 6,8 and 4 per cent of the total area of the District, respectively. The number of villages in the Rajpur Block is 99, in Kasrawad 228 and in Thikari 108. The population covered in Rajpur Block is 64,741, in Kasrawad 64,281 and 40,273 in Thikari. Percentages to the total population of the District work out to 8,8 and 6, respectively. The area of Bhikangaon Block is 547 sq. miles (1,416.724 sq. Kms.) with 278 villages and 68,770 population. Barwani, a Special Multipurpose Tribal Block has an area of 170.39 sq. miles (440.298 sq. Kms.) 84 villages with 52,504 population. Area of Khargone Block is 335 sq. miles (867,646 sq. Kms.) with 162 villages and population 78,760. Sendhwa Block has an area of 312 sq. miles (808,076 sq. Kms.) with 185 villages and a population of 73,996. The number of villages, area and population of the rest of the Blocks are.—

Name of the Block	No. of Villages	Areas in miles.	sq. kms.	Population
Maheshwar	208	769.227	297	72,661
Barwaha	319	1,212.115	468	86,534
Pansemal	128	484.328	187	71,736
Gogaon	199	893.546	345	90,000
Pati	102	926.426	377	30,329
Zirnia	131	663.037	256	47,639

During the Third Five Year Plan period, three more Blocks, one at Bhagwanpura and another at Segaon, both in Khargone Tahsil of the District and third one at Niwali in Sendhwa Tahsil, were started. First two Blocks were started on the 1st April, 1965. The area of Bhagwanpura Block is 434 sq. kms.

with 96 villages and 1,17,138 population. Segaon Block has an area of 353 sq. kms., 53 villages and 30,045 population. Niwali Block has an area of 304 sq. kms., with 60 villages and 33,160 population.

In the sphere of agriculture, activities in the Block areas consist of distribution of improved seeds, chemical fertilizers and agricultural demonstrations, *etc*. During the Second Five Year Plan period i.e., 1956-61, the seven Blocks in the District (*viz*., Rajpur, Kasrawad, Thikari, Bhikangaon, Barwani, Khargone and Sendhwa) taken together distributed 49,963 maunds of improved seeds to the agriculturists. Distribution of chemical fertilizers was of the order of 79,541 maunds in these blocks during the same period. As improvements in agriculture cannot be brought about simply by providing better seeds and chemical fertilizers, *etc*., people in the Block areas are given actual demonstrations in improved agricultural techniques. The number of such demonstrations totalled 6,011 in the seven Block areas during the Second Plan period.

During the Third Five Year Plan period from 1961-62 to 1963-64, the quantity of improved seeds for cereals and seeds other than cereals distributed was 1,97,998 maunds. In the year 1964-65 to the quantity of the improved seeds distributed was 21,272 quintals. Chemical fertilizers distributed during the same period were 1,88,248 maunds. In 1964-65 however, the quantity of chemical fertilizers distributed was 56,780 quintals Other fertilizers distributed from 1961-62 to 1963-64 were 30,086 maunds. For the year 1964-65 the distribution of other fertilizers amounted to 17,025 quintals. The number of demonstrations given in improved agricultural techniques from 1961-62 to 1964-65, was 6,833.

Allied to the agriculture the work in the Block areas also covers veterinary filed. The emphasis is on providing pedigree animals and birds as wall as provision of veterinary dispensaries which were 19 in the year 1962-63. In the year 1964-65 the number of full-fledged and peripatetic veterinary dispensaries functioning in the District was 37.

Construction and renovation of wells and tanks is also undertaken with a view to providing irrigation facilities on a small-scale. In this respect in all the seven Blocks taken together, 263 new wells were constructed and 289 old wells were renovated during the Second Plan period. One new tank was also constructed in the Sendhwa Block area. In these Blocks a total of 3,858 acres of land was reclaimed during the said period.

In the year 1961-62, 193 new irrigation wells were constructed which number increased to 450 in the year 1962-63. The number of old wells renovated for irrigation purposes also increased from 244 in 1961-62 to 366 in 1962-63. The net additional area likely to be irrigated was 1,864 and 1,320 in all the Blocks

during these two years, respectively. The land reclaimed was 13,509 and 5,400 acres, respectively.

In the year 1963-64, the activity regarding construction of new wells and repairing old ones for irrigation purposes appears to have been suspended. However, net additional area likely to be irrigated during the year was 3166 acres and land raclaimed was 17,224 acres. In the year 1964-65 irrigation wells constructed and renovated numbered 790 and 691, respectively. One irrigation tank was also constructed during the year in Barwaha Block. Net additional area likely to be irrigated during the year was 2,554 acres and land reclaimed 2,395 acres.

The activities in the Block areas as described above may be said to have a direct bearing on the betterment of rural economy. But economic betterment cannot be conceived in isolation with the conditions suitable for physical and intellectual development of the masses, whose economic betterment is sought. In this respect activities in the Block area consist in providing Primary Health Centres, drinking water facilities, construction of drains, sokage pits, rural latrines, *etc*. So as to keep hygienic conditions in the environment, during the Second Plan period eight Primary Health Centres were started in seven Blocks; 334 new drinking water wells were dug; 210 old wells were renovated and about 15 hand-pumps were installed. In order to prevent spilage and accumulation of drain water, which is the main cause in the rural areas of insanitary conditions 26,938 yards of *pucka* drains were constructed in all the above Blocks. Construction of rural latrines and sokage-pits was also undertaking in all the Block areas without exception.

The number of Primary Health Centres in the first year of the Third Five Year Plan remained the same as in the Second Five Year Plan period. However, in 1962-63, the number had fallen to six only. The number of rural dispensaries functioning in the years 1961-62 and 1962-63 was 52 and 38, respectively. The number of new drinking water wells constructed was 59 in 1961-62 and 108 in 1962-63. The old wells renovated for this purpose numbered 54 and 104, respectively, in these two years of the Third Plan. In the year 1963-64 drinking water wells constructed and renovated were 144 and 37, respectively. Primary Health Centres functioning in this year were 10. In all 56 rural dispensaries were functioning in the Block areas in the same year. In the year 1964-65, 142 new wells were constructed providing drinking water and 172 wells were renovated. Eleven Primary Health Centres and 42 rural dispensaries were functioning in the Block areas. Construction of *pucka* drains was 2,504 metres.

Efforts at reducing the proverbial magnitude of illiteracy amongst the rural masses, are made by starting literacy centres for the adults and providing reading-rooms, libraries, *etc*. In the above Block areas 173 literary centres were started, through which 3,967 adults were made literate during the Second Plan period and 156 reading rooms and libraries were also opened.

During Third Five Year Plan period literacy Centres for adults numbered 53 and 58 in the years 1961-62 and 1962-63, respectively with 97 and 1,300 adults made literates during these years. In the next year with 27 literacy centres 708 adults were made literate. In the year 1964-65 the number of literacy centres was 49 and those made literate numbered 550. Reading rooms and libraries started during the year were 31. Ordinary and basic type of schools functioning in different Blocks in the year 1961-62 and 1962-63 were 594 and 512, with enrolment to the extent of 32.172 and 33,956, respectively. In the following year, 1963-64, the corresponding figures were 1,304 schools with 48,892 students. The respective figures for the year 1964-65 were 944 ordinary and basic schools functioning with enrolment of 55,433 students.

One of the important contributory factors in the backwardness of rural areas is their isolation from the advancing urban areas for want of link-roads. Facilities in this connection are being provided by construction of new *kutcha* roads and culverts. About 800 miles length of *kutcha* roads were constructed in all the seven Blocks taken together during the Second Five Year Plan period. The number of culverts constructed was 102.

During the Third Five Year Plan this activity appears to have been slowed down. In the year 1963-64 the construction of area *kutcha* roads was only 74 miles (119.091 kms.), while in the year 1964-65, the length of the road constructed was 18 kms.

In a programme of economic development the co-operative movement has a place of its own. Co-operatives ensure much needed credit in the rural areas, and facilitiate trade and commerce. In the Block areas, therefore, emphasis is given on the development of co-operatives. The number of co-operative societies in the Block areas during the Second Plan period was 245. In one of these seven Blocks *viz.*, Rajpur, the co-operatives numbered about 95.

In the year 1961-62, as against 460 societies already functioning with 22,110 memberships, 63 new societies were started with 2,958 members. Societies functioning in the year 1962-63 were 289 with a membership of 25,375. The number of societies started in this year was 54 with 2,884 members enrolled. In the year 1963-64 as against 446 societies functioning in the Block areas with 44,547 membership, the number of co operatives started in the year was 129 with 11,330 members enrolled. In the year 1964-65 as against 772 societies functioning in the Block areas with 80,735 membership, the number of societies organized during the year was 63 with enrolment of 13,695 members. These year-wise figures indicate the growing emphasis that is being given on the co-operative activities as a means to the economic and social betterment of the rural population.

An element of Community life is introduced in the Block areas by formation of Youth Clubs, Farmers Unions, Mahila Samities, *etc*.

During the First Five Year Plan, Government expenditure on Block Development activities was Rs. 56.14 lakhs, with peoples' contribution amounting to Rs. 25.55 lakhs. During the Second Plan period, corresponding figures were Rs. 49.05 and Rs. 35.48 lakhs. For the Third Five Year Plan upto 1964-65, Government expenditure was of the order of Rs. 51.94 lakhs with people's contribution worth Rs. 19.79 lakhs.

It is not possible to state quantitative and qualitative changes brought about by all these activities in the economic and social life of the rural masses because evaluation data are not available. It is, however, certain that something is done for the rural masses, where there was nothing previously. For example, where there were no roads, roads have been laid out; where there were no wells for drinking water, new wells being dug. These activities, therefore, have definintely an effect on the life and well-being of the people.

CHAPTER X

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

The bulk of Nimar District of the erstwhile Holkar State was the biggest among the slices pieced together to form the present West Nimar District.

The District Administration in the Holkar State

The administrative system was based on the repeated sub-division of territory, each administrative area being in charge of an officer who was responsible to the officer next in rank above him. The most important of these units was the District or *Subhayat*. The Indore State embraced five of these, including Nimar District. The head of a district was styled '*Subha*'. He was the representative of the Government and embodied the powers of the State. He was, in the first place, concerned with the land and land revenue, and in the second, was a District Magistrate.[1]

In addition to his revenue duties the *Subha* was to take interest in all matters pertaining to the welfare of the people. In some branches of the administration, such as Public Works Department, Forests, Jails, Sanitation and Education, his functions were less direct. But his active co-operation and advice on these were often needed.[2]

It was in the year 1933 that the sphere of influence of the *Subhas* was widened. The *Subhas* as the administrative heads of the districts were made responsible for the efficiency of the entire administration of the District and for the welfare of the rural population.[3]

Other important District Officers were the Deputy Inspector General of Police incharge of ranges, and the Superintendent of Police who was responsible for the discipline and internal working of the police force. In matters relating to the detection of crime and peace of the District, he was under the control of the *Subhas*. The Assistant Surgeon was the head of the Medical and Sanitary administration of the District as well as that of the district town. He was the adviser of the *Subha* in all matters connected with the health of the people.[4]

1. Holkar State Administration Report, 1927, pp. 10-11.
2. Ibid., p. 11.
3. Ibid., 1933, p. 5.
4. Ibid., 1927, p. 11.

The *Subha* was aided in his multifarious duties by large set of subordinate officers. They held charge of the sub-divisions or *parganas* as they were called, into which the *subhayat* or district was split up for the sake of efficiency. The Sub-Divisional Officers were called *Amins* and under these were working some subordinate officers. The average area of the *pargana* varied from 300 to 500 square miles. The *Amin* was assisted by *Munsarims*, Patwaris, Patels and other village officials.[1]

Barwani State

The second largest portion amalgamated in the District was the whole of the former Barwani State, which was "in the Bhopawar political charge of the Central India Agency." "The Head of the State was known as the *Rana*. The State maintained political relations with the British Crown through the Political Agent in Malwa, Indore. For administrative purposes the State was divided into three Divisions and eight *Parganas* in 1908 after which the number of *parganas* was reduced to four, *viz.*, Anjar (Anjad), Rajpur, Silawad and Pansemal.

In all matters pertaining to General Administration, the Chief had full powers. He was assisted by a *Diwan* in supervising over the departments of administration.[2]

In 1942-43, however, the then *Rana* changed the pattern of administration by forming a State Council with powers both Legislative and Executive. The State Council had two members in addition to the *Rana*, who was its President and the *Diwan*, its Vice-President. One of the two members was in charge of Revenue matters, while the other incharge of Judicial matters.[3]

When the State had eight *parganas* there were three *Kamavisdars* posted in each of the three Divisions with Headquarters at Anjar, Silawad and Pansemal, respectively. The *Kamavisdar* at Anjar was assisted by two *Naib-Kamavisdars* and was looking after the Narbada Division consisting of Barwani, Anjar and Rajpur *parganas*. The second *Kamavisdar* at Silawad assisted by one *Naib-Kamavisdar*, administered the Satpura Division comprising Silawad and Pati *Parganas*. The *Kamavisdar* posted at Pansemal had two *Naib-Kamavisdars* under him to be incharge of the Jalagaon Division embracing the *parganas* of Pansemal, Khetia and Newali.

The *Kamavisdars* exercised judicial powers both cirminal and civil in addition to revenue work. The Tahsildar exercised a general supervision over the *Kamavisdars* in revenue matters.[4] This arrangement continued upto 1911-12, when the number of *parganas* was reduced to four. In the changed set-up the *parganas* of Anjar, Rajpur, Silawad and Pansemal, were in charge

1. Ibid., p. 11.
2. Barwani State Gazetteer. 1908, p. 27.
3. Barwani State Administration Report, 1941-42 to 1944-45 (Vol. I), p. 8.
4. Barwani State Gazetteer, 1908, p. 27.

of a *Kamavisdars* each. The work of these *Kamavisdar* was supervised by the Revenue Officer of the State. The *Kamavisdars* performed both Revenue and Judicial duties. In the revenue work the *Kamavisdars* were assisted by Revenue Inspector, Patwaries and Patels.[1] However during the year 1912-13, the Judiciary was separated from the Executive with the result that the *Kamavisdars* were relieved of their judicial duties since then. Whole-time Magistrates were appointed to dispose judicial cases.[2]

Thikri

Thikri Circle included in the Nimar-West District belonged to the former Dhar State "one of the eleven states of Central India Agency in direct relation with the British Government lying in the Bhopawar Political Charge."[3] For administrative purposes, the State was divided into nine *parganas* including Thikri (also called Sultanabad). But during 1905-06, Thikri was amalgamated as a Sub-Tahsil with Dharampuri pargana.[4] A *Kamavisdar* was in charge of the *pargana* and he was both the executive and judicial head. During the year 1905-06 the establishment of the *Kamavisdars* was reorganised for the sake of greater efficiency, and Revenue Inspectors were appointed to check the work of Patwaris and supervise the preparation of village records. Each *Kamavisdar* was given a Registrar Inspector to supervise over the Revenue Inspectors.[5]

The next year (1906-07) the work relating to separation of Judiciary from Executive was completed in the Dharampuri *pargana*, which included Thikri. Thus the *Kamavisdar* was relieved of his judicial duties thereby enabling him to function as a whole-time executive officer of the *pargana*.[6]

Bagod Pargana of Dewas (Senior) State

Dewas (Senior) State contributed Bagod *Pargana* to the District of Nimar-West. It is claimed in the Dewas State Gazetteer (1907) that "no administrative department existed in the State till it was brought under British supervision"[7] in 1818. During 1906-07 both the states of Dewas were transferred from the charge of the first Assistant to the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India to the charge of the Political Agent in Malwa, Neemuch.[8]

The Chief of the State, a ruling prince, exercised general control over the State. He was assisted by *Dewan*, the principal executive officer.[9] The controlling office of the State was called *Durbar*.[10] The State for administrative pur-

1. Barwani State Administration Report, 1911-12, p. 11.
2. Ibid., 1912-13, p. 6.
3. Dhar State Gazetteer, 1908, p. 1.
4. Dhar State Administration Report, 1905-06, p.3.
5. Ibid., pp. 3-4.
6. Ibid., 1906-07, pp. 2-3.
7. Dewas State Gazetteer, 1907, p 34.
8. Dewas (Sr.) State Administration Report, 1906-07, p. 3.
9. Dewas State Gazetteer, 1907, p. 34.
10. Ibid., p. 25.

poses was divided into five *parganas* including Bagod. Each *pargana* was in charge of a *Kamavisdar*, who was the Chief Revenue Officer and Magistrate, of his charge.[1]

Padlia (including Mandori) Pargana of Dewas (Junior) State

Padlia and Mandori enclaves of Dewas (Jr.) State, also went to form the present District. This State, too, was under the British supervision. Generally speaking, the Chief of the State exercised all powers in administration. He was assisted by the *Darbar* office in the Department of administration, the *Dewan* being its head. In 1941 two representatives of the people were given place in the State Council which was advising the *Dewan* and the *Chief*.[2] The State was divided into six *parganas* in 1907,[3] in four *Parganas* in 1913-14,[4] and in five *Parganas* in 1934-05[5] including Padlia. The head of each *pargana* was called the *Kamavisdar*, who was the chief executive officer. He also exercised magisterial powers.[6] An attempt was made to separate the Judiciary from the Executive but the same was abandoned in the State including Padlia *Pargana* "in order to give full time work to the *Kamavisdars*.[7] "In 1941 an important step, in the direction of democratisation of *pargana* administration, was taken. A *Pargana* Board with *Kamavisdar* of the *Mahal* or *Pargana*, as its President was formed. On this, as well as on the other two Boards formed, *viz.*, Central and Village Boards, the majority were non-officials. The *Pargana* Board was dealing with all matters concerning the *Pargana* including education, sanitation,[8] etc.

Post Independence Set-up

The District of Nimar-West came into being with the formation of the Madhya Bharat State in the Union of India in 1948, as a result of the amalgamation of areas from various princely states. The Nimar (Khargone) District of the former Holkar State, except the Tahsil of Nisarpur, the entire Barwani State, the two enclaves of Bagod and Padlia (including Mandori) from the erstwhile Dewas Senior and Junior States, respectively, Thikri Circle from the former Dhar State and 39 villages of the former Nimar (Khandwa) District of old Madhy Pradesh, were brought together to form this District. The District is divided into eight tahsils, *viz.*, Khargone, Barwaha, Barwani, Bhikangaon, Kasrawad, Maheshwar, Rajpur and Sendhwa, Khrgone being the District Headquarters.

Collectorate

The Collector of the West Nimar (Khargone) District is assisted by five Deputy Collectors, two of whom are attached to the collectorate while three are

1. Ibid., 1907, p. 36.
2. The Dewas State (Junior) Administration Annual, 1941-42.
3. Dewas State Gazetteer, 1907, p. 37.
4. Dewas (Jr.) State Administration Report, 1913-14, p. 1.
5. Ibid., 1934-35, p. 1.
6. Dewas State Gazetteer, 1907, p. 37.
7. Dewas (Jr.) State Administration Report, 1934-35, p. 9.
8. Ibid., 1913-1914, pp. 25-26.

in charge of a Sub-Division each, *viz.*, Khargone-Bhikangaon, Barwani and Mandleshwar. The Khargone-Bhikangaon Sub-Division with headquarters at Khargone, comprises Khargone and Bhikangaon thasils while the Barwani Sub-Division embraces Barwani, Rajpur and Sendhwa tahsils and the Mandleshwar Sub-Division consists of Burwaha, Maheshwar and Kasrawad tahsils. The organisational set-up in the Collectorate may be classified into three groups.—

(i) Land Revenue and Land Records and other allied matters

(ii) Law and order and

(iii) Development

For the purpose of administration of the first group of subjects, the District is divided into three Sub-Divisions, eight tahsils and four tappas. As has already been mentioned, each Sub-Division is headed by a Sub-Divisional Officer, who is also the Sub-Divisional Magistrate. There is a Tahsildar in each tahsil who enjoys the powers of a Second Class Magistrate. A Naib-Tahsildar is posted at the headquarters of each tahsil, as also at each tappa office. All the Naib-Tahsildars are invested with the powers of Third Class Magistrates.

At the village level, the work relating to the Land Revenue and Land Records is carried on by Patwaries, each being in charge of one or more villages grouped into 351 patwari circles. The Patwaries are under the immediate supervision of the Revenue Inspectors—each Revenue Inspector being in charge of a group of Patwari circles. The Table given below shows the tahsil-wise break-up of these circles.—

Tahsil	No. of Revenue Inspectors' circles	No. of Patwari circles
1. Khargone	4	68
2. Bhikangaon	2	50
3. Barwaha	2	51
4. Maheswar	2	29
5. Kasrawad	2	41
6. Sendhwa	2	43
7. Rajpur	2	46
8. Barwani	2	23
Total ..	18	351

At the District level a Superintendent of Land Records, assisted by two Assistant Superintendents of Land Records, supervises the Land Records work of the Revenue Inspectors and Patwaries. These are under the technical control of the Director of Land Records, Gwalior.

Law and Order

In the maintenance of Law and Order the Collector is assisted by the Magistracy and the—Police the two main limbs of district administration. The Magistracy includes the District Magistrate, Additional District Magistrate, the Sub-Divisional Magistrates, the Tahsildars and the Naib-Tahsildars of whom the last two are, as has been mentioned earlier, Second Class and Third Class Magistrates, respectively. The Collector himself is invested with the powers of the District Magistrate. The Police force in the District is commanded by the Superintendent of Police.

Development

The Collector, as the Head of the District administration, is made responsible for the successful implementation of the various development programmes in the District. In this behalf, he is assisted by a Deputy Collector who is in charge of the Development Section of the Collectorate. The District is divided into 16 Development Blocks out of which the Block at Barawani, is Special Multipurpose Tribal Development Block State II, while Niwali, Rajpur, Sendhawa, Zirnya and Pati are Tribal Development Blocks. Of the others *viz.*, Pansemal, Gogawan, Barwaha, Maheshwar and Khargone are Stage I, Bhikangaon is Stage II, and Kasrawad and Thikari are post-Stage III Blocks. As the posts of Block Development Officers have been abolished with effect from 1st January 1966, their charges have been given to the senior most Agricultural Extension Officers of the respective Blocks. The overall charges have been entrusted with the respective Sub-Divisional Officers of the Sub-Divisions, who are provided with a team of Extension Officers drawn from seven departments, *viz.*, Agriculture, Veterinary and Animal Husbandary, Co-orprcation, Public Works, Public Health, Panchayat and Social Welfare, and Industries. Twelve village level workers or Gram Sevaks (including two women workers known as Gram Sewikas) are attached to each Block. In order to ensure the effective participation of the people at the village level in planning and execution of the developmental programmes, a Block Development Committee in each Block has been constituted. The Committee consists of officials and non-officials, the latter being the local members of the Parliament, the State Assembly the Local Bodies, etc.

The Collector or Sub-Divisional Officer acts as Convenor of the Committee while the Agricultural Officer in charge of the Block functions as its Secretary. The Chairman of the Committee is elected from amongst the non-official members present. The Committee mainly advises on the formulation of working plans, and the drawing up of the development programmes of the Block. It also reviews the progress made and attempts to promote peoples' participation and co-operation in programmes aiming at the increase of agricultural production.

Apart from the three main groups of functions described above. the Collector has other statutory and non-statutory functions to perform. For instance, he has also been vested with executive and administrative powers in regard to matters pertaining to Excise.

The control of the District Treasury and Sub-Treasuries is also vested in the Collector. The Treasury Officer is posted at Khargone and is drawn from the cadre of the State Financial Service, while the Tahsil Sub-Treasuries are in charge of the respective Tahsildars. There is one sub-Treasury at Pansemal *tappa* being looked after by the Naib-Tahsildar of the place. The Treasury Officer is also the *Ex-officio* District Registrar and the responsibility of the execution of the Registration Act is vested in him. The Tahsildars of all the tahsils, with the exception of Khargone tahsil, and the Naib-Tahsildars of Pansemal and Sanawad, are the *Ex-officio* Sub-Registrars. There is a whole-time Sub-Registrar at Khargone.

The members of the Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes together form about 51 per cent of the population in the District. Naturally various schemes have been launched for the welfare of these classes of the people by the Tribal Welfare Department. At the District Headquarters there is a District Organiser in charge of the Tribal Section of the Collectorate. Assisting him are ten Circle Organisers posted at Barwani, Rajpur, Sendhwa, Khargone, Mandleshwar, Zirniya, Pati and Bhikangaon. The welfare activities include running of hostels for boys and girls belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, organising Forest, Labour, Cooperative Societies and Multipurposes Cooperative Societies, to mention only a few. In order that the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes might be free from heavy indebtedness, the M. P. Scheduled Tribes Debt Relief Regulations, 1962, were passed. The Sub-Divisional Officers have been invested with the powers of disbursing the amount of relief to the *Adivasis*, under this enactment. The control and supervision of the Tribal Welfare Department in the District is exercised by the Collector.

In addition to the above, many other miscellaneous subjects such as Maufi, Rehabilitation of displaced persons, Food and Civil Supplies, Panchayats, Census, Election, and Agriculture are also assigned to the Collector. In the work relating to agriculture, he is assisted by the Deputy Director of Agriculture, while one or the other of the Deputy Collectors assists him in other functions.

The Collector is also associated with a number of official and non-official committees in the District. Notable among the former is the District Advisory Committee which was formed in 1958 in pursuance of a general decision by the Government. The Collector is the Chairman of this Committee which consists of several non-officials such as Members of the Legislative Assembly; Members of Parliament; Sarpanch, Mandal Panchayat and Kendra Panchayats; all Presidents of Municipal Councils; President of the District Congress Committee; Convenor of the Bharat Sevak Samaj; the Chairman of the Central Cooperative Bank, Sanawad, and one representative each of labour and Industries in the District. The Deputy Collector in charge of the Planning and Development section works as the Secretary of this Committee. The Committee mainly advises the Collector on problems purely of local character affecting the general public interest. This Committee also discharges all functions of the various advisory

committees, which had existed previously in the District, such as, the District, Development Committee, etc. Thus it also acts as the District Advisory Committee under the Emergency Relief Organisation Scheme and Small Savings Scheme, and is also made responsible for securing public cooperation in the prohibition policy of the Government.

Other Offices of the State Government

Other offices representing the Departments of the State Government in the District are.—

1. Office of the Deputy Director, Agriculture, West Nimar, Khargone.
2. Office of the District Live-Stock Officer, West-Nimar, Khargone.
3. Office of the District Medicial Officer (Civil Surgeon), Barwani.
4. Office of the District Publicity Officer, West Nimar, Khargone.
5. Office of the District Statistical Officer, West Nimar, Khargone.
6. Office of the Executive Engineer, P.W.D. (Roads & Buildings), Khargone.
7. Office of the Assistant Director of Industries, West Nimar Khargone.
8. Office of the Executive Engineer P.W.D. (Irrigation), Khargone.
9. Office of the Assistant Fisheries Development Officer, Khargone.
10. Office of the Divisional Forest Officer, Khargone.
11. Office of the Devisional Forest Officer, Barwani.
12. Office of the District Education Officer, West Nimar, Khargone.
13. Office of the Employment Officer, West Nimar, Khargone.
14. Office of the Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, West Nimar, Khargone.
15. Office of the District Panchayat and Welfare Officer, Khargone.
16. Office of the District Organiser, Harijan & Tribal Welfare, Khargone.
17. Office of the Superintendent of Police, West Nimar, Khargone.
18. Court of the District and Sessions Judge, West Nimar, Mandleshwar.

UNION GOVERNMENT OFFICES

Office of the Inspector of Post-Offices, Khargone Sub-Division

The office of the Inspector of Post-offices, Khargone Sub-Division, was opened on October 1, 1963. This office exercise jurisdiction over the entire District. There are in all 114 Post-Offices in the District employing one Inspector, 15 Post-Masters of different grades, 24 postmen, and 215 others in different capacities.

Office of the Superintendent of Central Excise

The Office of the Superintendent of Central Excise, Khandwa, exercises jurisdiction over the revenue districts of Nimar-East and Nimar-West, the office having been established on 1st January, 1957. The Superintendent is assisted by three Deputy Superintendents of Central Excise, 18 Inpectors, 16 Sub-Inspectors and 27 Sepoys. Among them, five Inspectors are posted one each in charge of Maheswar, Anjad and Barwani ranges and two in charge of Khargone range (Tobacco range and Oil range). Besides, five Sub-Inspectors and five sepoys are working in the District.

The office works for the implementation of Excise (Central) Rules and proper and efficient collection of Excise duties and licence fees. The Inspectors, assisted by the Sub-Inspectors and Sepoys are responsible for the registration of tobacco-growing villages, assessment of excisable goods, clearance of goods, excepting of annual returns of manufactured tobacco, renewal of licences, realisation of arrears of tax and duties, and prevention of their evasion.

CHAPTER XI

REVENUE ADMINISTRATION

Only fragmentary evidence is available of the system of land revenue assessment which was prevalent in the early times in the areas now constituting West Nimar District. The *Ain-i-Akbari* gives statistical information about the area, revenue demand, etc., of the *parganas* of Anjari (now Anjar), Un, Bamangaon (now spelt as Brahmangaon), Balakwara, Bikhangaon, Tikri, Sindhawa (now spelt as Sendhwa), Kasraod, Khargone, Kanapur, Khudgaon, Muhammadpur, Mardana, Nawari (now known as Niwali), etc.[1] These *parganas*, which in Akbar's time were part of the *sarkar* of Bijagarh of the Suba of Malwa, now form part of West Nimar District. The statistical information in the *Ain* suggests that Todarmal's system of land revenue settlement was extended to these areas during the rule of Akbar (1542-1605).

Little is known of the revenue system in these territories under Akbar's successors until we come to the rule of the Holkar dynasty. During his tour of Central India in the beginning of the 19th Century, Sir John Malcolm found that the land system of the Holkar State was analogous to that out of which the *raiyatwari* system had developed in some parts of the then British India. Under this system the management of the village and the collection of rents were entrusted to a hereditary Patel, remunerated by a *watan*, that is customary rights and privileges, the chief of which was the right to enjoy, free of assessment, a certain area of cultivated land. The Patel was assisted in his work by the Patwari. The village site and the village waste were at the disposal of the State, but the primary claim of each cultivator to his particular holding was recognised, and he was held directly responsible for the rent to which he was assessed by the Government. This system, though analogous to the *raiyatwari* system of the British India, sharply differed from it in one respect. In British India the *raiyat* was recognised as practically the proprietor of the holding with unrestricted rights of transfer and the revenue was assessed upon the land and was not regarded as a rent based on the contract with a landlord. In the Holkar State, however, the Ruler was the universal landlord and the cultivators were his tenants, they having a mere cultivating right on the land so long as they paid the revenue. In consequence their rights of transfer were liable to definite limitation and the sums paid by them were thus, in accordance with

1. Ain-i-Akbari, Vol. II, Tr. by H.S. Jarrett, pp. 215-217.

official phraseology, revenue and not rent. As a matter of fact, the alienation of holdings was allowed only for a limited term under special sanction and on payment of a fee or *nazarana* to the State. The revenue system could, therefore, be more correctly described as the *khalsa* system. However, in Nimar District of the State, which was for a time under British management, proprietary rights also existed.

The institution of the Patel and Patwari, however, declined greatly in importance after the *ijaradari* system was brought into force. Under this system the rent was collected from tenants, for the most part, through revenue farmers or contractors, known as *ijaradars*, who took up, for a term of years, the responsibility for the revenue assessed on individual villages or small groups of villages. Sometimes, whole *mahals* and even districts were leased out to the *ijaradars*. The *ijaradars* furnished security for the payment of the Government demand from the village or villages contracted for by them and received 12 per cent commission on the assessment of the village for their trouble. Towards the end of the 19th Century they were remunerated at about 10 per cent of the gross rental on condition of paying it in full into the *mahal* treasury.

The assessments under the *ijara* system were made not on any principle but on an arbitrary and haphazard calculation of the averages obtained in previous years. The *ijaradars* had the right of making changes in the holdings and the holders thereof, independently of the State.

The *ijara* system was, however, full of evils in that once a *mahal* or district was leased out to an *ijaradar*, he could, of his own authority, sub-let a part of it to others as he pleased at an arbitrary fixation of rent which was exacted by the *sub-ijaradars* from the cultivators. The management of villages by *ijaradars* was also not a success. They took very little interest or trouble in the development of their villages and being largely of the money-lending castes, they relied more on the 10 per cent remuneration on the gross rental. Thus, they used their position as *ijaradars* to extend their money lending transactions. In view of these and other evils, it was decided in 1904-05 not to renew *ijaras* as they fell in but to introduce in the *ijara* villages the *raiyatwari* system under direct State (*khalsa*) management. When a *pargana* was held in *ijara*, its chief revenue officer was called the *kamavisdar* and when it was brought under *khalsa* management, the designation was changed to *amin*. Under the *khalsa* system land revenue was realized direct by the State from the tenant. The Patwari was the chief realizing agent who was aided by the Patel.

Nimar District of the former Holkar State was settled in a somewhat regular manner for the first time in 1865. In the previous year the newly established Survey Department of the State conducted a land survey of the District under the *kad-dhap* system. Under this system land was measured with the help of iron chains instead of ropes as before. Field sketches and village maps, described as 'approximately correct', were prepared on this occasion.[1]

1. V.K. Kunte, Note on Indore Administration, p. 113.

When the survey records were completed, one survey clerk was sent to each of the *parganas* to explain to the *amin* the survey papers concerning his *pargana*. The *amin* then prepared a draft of the new settlement for each of the villages falling in his *pargana*. An abstract statement showing the revenue of the whole *pargana* was then prepared. The assessment was fixed by the Ruler himself and the method adopted by him may be described in the words of a State official:—[1]

"The Maharaja made a tour to Khargone and addressed himself to the details of the settlement or Jamabandi work. His Highness carefully considered the draft Jamabandi statements in consultation with the Subba and the Amins of every Pargana and then fixed the Jamabandi figures. His Highness called before him the leading cultivators of every Pargana, explained to them the new Jamabandi, heard their objections, answered them, reduced Jamabandi figures by a few rupees and sent them back pleased."

This Settlement was viewed with disfavour both by the Darbar officials and the *raiyats* as the policy of the Darbar was to draw the largest possible amount of revenue from the agriculturists. The rates were arbitrarily fixed according to the class of the land, and the market price of the produce was the guiding factor as to what the land could bear.

In 1870-71, the settlements made by the British Government in the *parganas* of Mandleshwar, Barwaha, Kasrawad and Dhurgaon, (which had been made over to the Indore State in 1867 in exchange), had expired. Fresh settlement operations were, therefore, undertaken in those areas in 1871-72 and as a result the revenue was increased from Rs. 80,000 to Rs. 1,49,000, i.e., by 86 per cent.

The assessment did not vary in respect of the crop raised, but it varied with reference to the class of soil. For irrigated land the village average rate varied from Rs. seven to Rs. nine per acre while for dry land the average was from Rs. two to Rs. three per acre.

Re-settlement operations were commenced in the District in 1881 and the survey of the *parganas* of Khargone and Maheshwar was completed during the years 1883-84 and 1885-86, respectively. Under the new survey system, the maps were checked although doubts were expressed as to how far this was done. After the survey was over, a revised land revenue settlement was introduced in 1889-90 in the *mahals* of Khargone, Muhammadpur, Un, Balakwada, Sanawad, Khudgaon, Barud Mardana, and Amlatha. As a result, a total remission of Rs. 68,321 was made in the gross revenue demand of these *mahals*. Nearly one-half of this remission was on account of two cesses, viz., *hal fala* and *karja chukoti* and the other half was on account of reduction in the land tax proper. No

1. Ibid., p. 116.

report of this Settlement was written. Although this Settlement expired in 1895, no fresh settlement was carried out, but considerable arbitrary enhancements were made from time to time.

The foregoing Settlements were, however, not considered satisfactory and, therefore, the necessity for a settlement on "a just and proper basis" was brought to the notice of the Holkar Government by the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India. With this end in view, a survey of the State on plane table system was begun in 1901-02[1]. In 1904 Mandleshwar District was amalgamated in to Khargone District, the reorganised District being known as the Nimar District.

The new land settlement operations were entrusted to H. J. Hoare, a civil servant from the then United Provinces. An elaborate system of soil classification, based mainly on the depth of the soil, was evolved in respect of dry and irrigated lands. The soil classification was done by *Munsarims*, who were trained by Hoare personally in this work. Before commencing actual soil classification field by field, the *Munsarim* was entrusted to make a careful general inspection of the village he was about to classify. In this primary inspection, he was instructed to consult the cultivators.

For purposes of assessment the District was divided into two main charges, viz., the Khargone Charge and the Mandleshwar Charge. Each Charge was further divided into three groups or circles. The circles of the Khargone Charge were: (1) the Ordinary Circle, (2) the Irrigation Circle, and (3) the Jungle Circle. The villages in the Ordinary Circle, which comprised the centre of the Khargone tract, were cultivated almost to the full. They were physically distinguished by large open tracts of level reddish soil. The Irrigation Circle depended for its prosperity on the artificial enhancement of the humidity of the soil by wells or *bandhs*. The Jungle Circle was the least developed Circle containing the largest area of scrub and jungle. The assessment groups of the Mandleshwar Charge were: (1) the Narbada Group, (2) the Ordinary Group, and (3) the Jungle Group. The Narbada Group villages lay on either side of the Narmada river within about six miles from its banks and contained generally very deep and fertile soils well suited for *rabi* cultivation. The Ordinary Group villages were situated between the Jungle and Narbadu Group villages on either side of the Narmada river. Most of these villages had large sites and contained rich and fertile soils capable of growing wheat but mostly appropriated to the growth of *kharif*. The Jungle Group villages generally contained poor soils of shallow character and grew chiefly *kharif* crops which were considerably open to the depredation of wild animals.

Each of the Groups/Circles was again sub-divided into classes I and II to differentiate the superior and inferior villages. Class I villages generally contained good soils while class II as a rule inferior ones. The Table below shows

1. C. I. Agency Report, 1901-02, pp. 5-6.

the distribution of the villages among the Circles/Groups and their classes :—

Khargone Charge

Ordinary Circle	Class I	91
	Class II	58
Irrigation Circle	Class I	39
	Class II	16
Jungle Circle	Class I	29
	Class II	60
	Total	293

Mandleshwar Charge

Narbada Group	I	114
Narbada Group	II	12
Ordinary Group	I	153
Ordinary Group	II	60
Jungle Group	I	26
Jungle Group	II	24
	Total	389

Of these 389 villages, 52 were held on *ijara* and the rest were managed under *khalsa*.

Three methods of fixing rents were in vogue in the State before this Settlement, viz.,

(1) Varying *bigha* rates applied to varying qualities of soil;

(5) Plough rates; and

(3) The fixation of rent annually by a rough calculation of the area cultivated and the application of the rates the *amin* thought suitable.

Under the new Settlement, the last method was discontinued and all rates were either acre soil rates or plough rates. Plough rates were useful in every undeveloped village, where there were no maps and no Patwari staff. They were assessed on the number of pairs of bullocks used for ploughing in the villages.

The general principles of assessment followed by the Settlement Officer at this Settlement may be described in his own words:—[1]

"The general principles of assessment followed by me have been to first fix the amount of revenue which a village considered as a single holding, can pay and then ensure the equitable distribution of this amount amongst the tenants by

1. Assessment Report on the Khargone Charge, Nimar District, 1908, p. 15.

framing village rates founded on a close and accurate soil demarcation, which rates when applied to the holdings area will produce the amount assessed. In deciding the amount which I consider a village can pay, I have been guided by the assessment at last settlement, the subsequent changes irrigation and cultivation in the village, its tenantry, their indebtedness and the appearance of their site, the comparative value of the village with respect to the other villages of its circle class as shown by its valuation at circle rates modified in accordance with notes made at inspection, its present attested demand, and, last but not least, by the realisations over a period of years, before and after the famine of 1900 A.D."

The Table below shows the previous and the new demand fixed circle-wise in the Khargone Charge:—

Circle	Demand at Last Settlement	New Demand
	Rs.	Rs.
Ordinary I	97,424	90 517
Ordinary II	29,758	27,742
Irrigation I	61,327	56,178
Irrigation II	11,139	10,694
Jungle I	16,953	17,091
Jungle II	14,939	16,610
Total	2,31,540	2,18,832

It will be seen that the new demand was reduced from Rs. 2,31,540 to Rs. 2,18,832. This reduction was necessitated due to decrease in the area under irrigation and the fiscal history of the Khargone tract during the last decade of the 19th Century. During this period, the tract witnessed a series of crop failures and the famine of 1899-1900. The result was that the land revenue was in arrears and a lighter assessment was therefore, justified. It may be noted that another sum of Rs. 2,297 was added as assessment in respect of 13 villages which were not assessed at the last Settlement. Thus, the new demand in the tract totalled at Rs. 2,21,129 (Rs. 2,18,832+Rs. 2,297). The new demand was inclusive of all cesses, it having been assessed in comparison with the expiring demand plus cessses.

The Table below shows the previous and the new demand group-wise in the Mandleshwar Charge:—

Name of Group	Demand at Last Settlement	New Demand
	Rs.	Rs.
Narbada I	1,63,617	1,63,589
Narbada II	5,679	6,780
Ordinary I	1,46,076	1,63,015
Ordinary II	23,260	31,805
Jungle I	2,209	12,760
Jungle II	5,693	8,528
Total	3,46,534	3,91,477

It will be seen that the new demand represented an increase of Rs. 44,943 over the previous demand. This increase was specially marked in the villages falling in the Ordinary and Jungle groups and was justified on account of a considerable increase in the cultivation of both dry and wet lands. Some resumed lands in this Charge were also assessed on this occasion, the assessment being Rs. 8,049.

Besides 389 villages in the Mandleshwar Charge there were 56 more villages in this Charge where settlement operations could not be undertaken in 1906-07 on account of inaccurate survey. Of these, 34 villages were in Katkut *pargana* while the remaining were in the Maheshwar *pargana*. These villages were settled in 1907-08.

The previous and new demands of these villages are shown below:—

Villages	Previous Demand	New Demand
	Rs.	Rs.
34 villages of Katkut pargana	13,014	14,051
22 villages of Maheshwar pargana	7,909	8,988
Total	20,923	23,039

Thus, by 1907-08 all the *parganas* in Nimar District except the Bhikangaon *pargana* were settled for a term of 20 years. The Bhikangaon *pargana*, which comprised 182 villages, was earlier settled for Rs. 60,707 in 1902 for 15 years. This *pargana* was under the management of the Forest Department till 1901 and was plough-rated. As some of the villages were then held by *Ijaradars*, whose term had not expired, the whole *pargana* could not be settled at one time. On its re-organisation in 1904 it consisted of 232 *khalsa* villages. Some of these villages were settled along with the Khargone *pargana* in 1905, some with the Chikhalda Charge in 1906 and a major portion in 1910, the term of Settlement in all villages being fixed up to 1925.

The Table below gives the demand at the last Settlement, the attested, and new assessed demands and the changes in irrigated, dry and fallow land in holdings since the last Settlement in respect of the then Nimar District including the Chikhalda Charge:—

Last Settlement Demand	Increase or Decrease in Irrigation Since Last Demand	Increase or Decrease in Dry Cultivation Since Last Settlement	Average Collection	
			Before Famine	After Famine
1	2	3	4 (a)	4 (b)
Rs.	Acres	Acres	Rs.	Rs.
6,81,737	—1,687	+2,98,095	7,88,334	8,05,315

Attested Demand	New Demand	Increase or Decrease on	
		Last Settlement Demand	Attested Demand
5	6	7 (a)	7 (b)
Rs.	Rs.		
8,67,044	8,98,776	+2,16,979	+31,732

Dates of payment of the revenue instalments (*kists*) were also decided at this Settlement. In the case of the Khargone Charge, the dates were the 20th January and the 1st May while in the Mandleshwar Charge, these were the 1st February and the 15th May. The machinery for the collection of revenue demand was also streamlined. The village Patel was made responsible for the collection of the new demand. In accordance with the Pateli Rules framed earlier, the Patel was selected at the time of village inspection by the Settlement Officer with the consent of the tenants.

The village servants recognized at this time were the *Chaukidar* and the *Balai*. In the Mandleshwar Charge the *Chaukidar* was paid a monthly salary of Rs. four to Rs. five by the Revenue Department and his duties included rendering assistance in revenue realizations. The *Balai* was the menial servant of the village and was remunerated by a revenue-free holding.

The term of this Settlement being due to expire in 1926, a revision of the Settlement was ordered by the Government in 1923. According to the principles and instructions sanctioned by the Government for conducting these operations, the survey was, as a general rule, to be taken as correct except in cases of errors of a serious nature. The maps were to be brought up-to-date and the original classification of the soil, wherever complete, was not to be changed except in the case of gardens, wet lands, newly cultivated lands and occupied uncultivated lands, not fully soil-classed before. Thus, the system af survey and settlement introduced under the guidance of H. J. Hoare nearly 20 years ago, was generally to be followed.

The re-settlement operation began in Nimar District in 1924. As re-survey and fresh soil-classification of the entire District was not found necessary correction of the existing maps was commenced in the various *parganas* in 1925. Training of the staff in settlement work was also imparted at Khargone, Maheshwar and Sendhwa from the 15th August to the 15th October, 1925.

With a view to preparing correct, up-to-date and all-round statements serviceable for the approaching re-settlement, the Settlement Department started in 1926 field work which, besides map correction, included preparation of record of rights and interests for all the villages. The Department also undertook attestation and organized an assessment inspection. Forecast reports of the probable results of re-settlement were prepared by each district and these were sanctioned by the Government.

The unit of administration of the State, called *pargana* or *mahal*, was adopted for the purpose of settlement operations including the assessment of land revenue. This was not the case at the last Settlement. The *pargana* was divided into groups, called assessment circles or villages, where conditions were almost the same. For each such group a set of soil rates, called circle standard rates, was framed, which when applied for each village, gave its value. These

rates formed the basis of assessment of land revenue in the group concerned. In their application to individual villages circle standard rates were, however, modified either way within the limit of 25 per cent allowed by the rules in force.

Under this scheme the eight *parganas* of Nimar District, viz., Khargone, Maheshwar, Kasrawad, Barwaha, Bhikangaon, Segaon, Sendhwa, and Nisarpur, (which formed the assessment units) were divided into 36 assessment circles as against 30 at the previous Settlement. It may be noted that at this time the number of *khalsa* villages in the District was 1,404.

The pitch of revenue rates fixed varied principally with the state of development of the village assessed. Villages in the same state of development were placed in one class and the rates paid by them were found by distributing their revenue demand in accordance with soil classification. The pressure of these rates on the villages was carefully noted after watching pressure of rent over a large number of villages and after making allowances for the castes of tenants and other relevant factors. By so doing a fairly accurate idea of suitable standard of rates for each class of villages was acquired.

The new revenue demand for the then Nimar District (including the *pargana* or Nisarpur) was fixed at Rs. 15,31,164. This represented an increase of Rs. 3,25,699 or 27 per cent over the attested expiring demand of Rs. 12,05,465.

The enhancement in the new demand was explained due to increase in the occupied and cultivated areas over the previous Settlement, the percentage of increase in the latter being 24.41.

It may be added that the incidence was higher in the *parganas* of Maheshwar, Kasrawad and Barwaha, described as the best parts of the District.

In order to avoid a sudden and excessive enhancement in revenue, the enhancement was moderated by a process of progression extending over the first three years of the new Settlement.

This Settlement was brought into force from May, 1927, in all the *parganas* and its term was fixed at 30 years.

It may be noted that this and the previous Settlement were in respect of *khalsa* villages only. Although the term of Settlement of these villages expired in 1957, no further settlement operations have been undertaken in the District with the result that land revenue is being paid at the rates assessed at the last Settlement.

Besides the *khalsa* villages, there were also some *jagir* villages in the District. These villages were assigned to some privileged persons known as *jagirdars* and *istmarardars*. The former held villages permanently, free of revenue, while the latter were subject to a quit-revenue, fixed in perpetuity.

Another important class of such assignees was known as *inamdar*, who was the holder of a rent free grant, of a specified area in a village, made as reward for some religious or secular, past or future, service or for maintenance. In pursuance of the policy of the Ruler the *jagir* villages were left untouched by the settlement operations for quite a long time. The result was the *jagirdars* often committed excesses and tyrannies on their subjects in the form of exactions. The district officers were also discouraged from taking a direct interest in non-*khalsa* villages and in consequence the *jagirdars* and *istmarardars* became virtually independent of any administrative control. Their administration was autocratic and was carried on according to their whims or those of their managers. The village records were not properly maintained and the Patwari was treated by the *jagirdar* as his private servant.

Some measures were initiated to effect improvement in the administration of the *jagir* villages. A Manual for Jagirdars was enacted in February, 1928. This Manual laid down rules and principles for the governance of *jagirs*. In the year 1933 a survey and settlement of such of the *jagir* and *istmarardar* villages not already surveyed and settled was ordered. So much about the revenue system of Nimar District of the Holkar State.

As regards the Barwani State, only a sketchy account is available of the system of land revenue assessment and management which prevailed in this State during the 19th Century. In early times, all villages in the State were given out on *ijara* in the *parganas* of Rajpur, Barwani and Silawad. In other areas land was granted on a progressive lease at rupee one for the first year, the demand being increased by one rupee every year for four years and in the fifth year the full assessed demand was charged.

Although a 20 year settlement of the State was suggested to the ruling authorities by the Deputy Bhil Agent in Central India in 1866-67, this suggestion was not followed on the plea that, "the inhabitants are not particularly anxious for a settlement, as there is little or no waste land in these villages and the present assessment is light".[1] Between 1877 and 1881, the *parganas* of Anjar, Barwani and Rajpur were, what the State authorities claimed, "regularly surveyed and systematically assessed." The Jalgaon Division, which was under reclamation for a long time, was surveyed in 1891[2].

In the beginning, lands were given to the cultivators free of revenue for the first five years. After this period a rent of four annas per *bigha* was charged for the next five years, but only to well-to-do cultivators. The rent was then increased to eight annas per *bigha* and by the beginning of this Century, the rent was further raised, the rate ranging between 12 annas and Rs. 1-8-0 per *bigha* depending upon the nature of the soil of the land. The Bhils and Pawarias

1. C.I. Agency Report, 1867-68, p. 22, & App. D, p. IV.
2. Barwani State Gazetteer 1908, p. 31.

were originally charged from Rs. two to Rs. five per *aud* (20 *bighas*) but in about 1906 they paid at the rate of Rs. seven to Rs. eight per *aud*.

Two forms of assessment were in force at about this time. One was known as *darbandi* under which the revenue collection was made in cash assessed on the *bigha*. The other was *audbandi* under which the collection was made in cash at a certain rate per *aud* or plough of land, viz., 20 *bighas*. The plough assessment was prevalent in the Satpura Division which was inhabited by Bhils and other primitive tribes and also to a certain extent in the Jalgaon Division. Under the *audbandi* form an *aud*, consisting of 20 *bighas* was taken to be the area which a cultivator could plough with one pair of oxen. If, however, he worked with two pairs of oxen he had to pay double the rate.

The rates of the revenue demand were generally fixed according to the nature of the soil which was classified into (a) *guhali*, (b) *mal*, and (c) *khardi*. The status of the cultivator was also taken into consideration while fixing the rates. The rate of the irrigated land in the Narbada Division ranged between Rs. 1-8-0 and Rs. 5-0-0 per *bigha* depending upon the nature of the soil. In the case of unirrigated land the rate was between Rs. 2 and Rs. 1-8-0 per *bigha* for *guhali*, between Rs. 1-4-0 and Re. 1 for *mal* and between 12 annas and 4 annas for *khardi*. In the Jalgaon Division a fixed rate of Rs. 7 to Rs. 8 per plough was charged to Bhils and Pawarias, while the other cultivators were charged at a rate ranging between Rs. 1-8-0 and 12 annas per *bigha* according to the nature of the soil. In the Satpura Division a fixed rate of Rs. 9 per plough was levied. The nature of the soil was, however, not taken into consideration while fixing the rates in the Jalgaon and Satpura Division.

The revenue demand of the whole of Barwani State was fixed at Rs. 1,65,809 on 1,93,100 acres of cultivated land, giving an average rate per acre of Re. 0-13-9. The average yield per acre at that time was estimated at about eight maunds of the *kharif* crops which in a normal year fetched a return of about Rs. 20. According to these estimates, a cultivator paid about five per cent as land revenue out of his income.

All the revenue demand was collected in one instalment in cash except in the Anjar *pargana* where it was collected in two instalments after the *kharif* harvest. The land revenue was realised through the Patwaris.

The system of land management in the State resembled the *raiyatwari* system. The Darbar was the sole owner of the soil. Ordinary *pattas* or leases were not granted to cultivators. The cultivator first made an application, called the *kabuliat*, to the *pargana* Officer or the Tahsildar for the grant of a certain field. The *kabuliat* was then sent to the Darbar for sanction and after this was accorded, the cultivator's name was registered in the *jamabandi patrak* (register). Fields thus granted could be cultivated by the cultivator and his heirs. He was, however, not interfered as long as he paid his revenue. If he

withheld the revenue for two or three years, his land became escheat to the State. He had also no right to sell or mortgage the land without the sanction of the Darbar. The cultivator's right to use the land was transferable in favour of his heirs and in their absence the land became escheat to the State. No court could execute a decree against the cultivator by attaching or disposing of his fields.

In 1906-07 some reforms were introduced in the revenue administration of the State particularly in regard to the institutions of the Patel and the Patwari. The duties of the Patel as headman of the village and as intermediary between the Darbar and the tenants were usurped by the Patwari for a long time with the result that the Patel was not much thought of either by the tenants or by the State. In order to restore him to his former position, the Patel was made responsible for the revenue collection. The land held by him on service tenure was assessed and he was remunerated in cash at five per cent on his collections. He was paid his remuneration immediately after he had credited his collection into any of the State treasuries.

Formerly, there were two kinds of Patwaris, viz., (a) paid, and (b) hereditary or *watandars*. Both were State servants but the former was regularly paid by the State while the latter held *inam* land and recovered grain doles (*adav*) at various rates per plough directly from the cultivators of his village. There were always disputes about the grain doles between the *watandar* Patwari and his cultivators. Moreover, in many cases competency was not taken into consideration and the hereditary Patwari was considered to be a great hindrance in the progress of the revenue administration. In order to meet this problem, *inam* lands held free on service tenure by Patwaris were assessed at half the current rates and salaries varying from Rs. 12 to Rs. 14 were fixed in consideration of their having given up the collection of grain doles. At the same time, in place of these doles the State extended the levy of Patwari cess which was calculated at a uniform rate of one anna per rupee of land revenue paid by the cultivators.

There being no suitable dates fixed for collection of revenue the cultivator was more or less at the mercy of petty officials, who demanded revenue at any time they liked. In many cases demand was made before the produce was ready for sale. The result was that the cultivator had to borrow from the money-lender who made enormous profits. In order to avoid this evil, the revenue was ordered to be recovered in instalments on dates fixed after full consideration of the local circumstances and giving ample time for cultivators to dispose of their produce in the market. In order, however, to safeguard the State interests the State dues were declared to be the first charge on the field produce.

A number of steps were taken for undertaking the new settlement operations in the State. As a first step, the circles of Patwari were re-adjusted in 1905-06. Local Patwaris and Kanungos were given practical training in survey as well as settlement. The survey work, which was conducted under the survey

staff of Darbar in the *parganas* of Anjar, Barwani, Rajpur, Pansemal and Khetia, was checked at the suggestion of the Political Agent in 1905-06 and where it was not found satisfactory it was re-done. A number of petty taxes and customs were also abolished, the object being to retain as few cesses and demands as practicable on the cultivators, outside the actual land tax and cesses for local purposes and which were calculated as a percentage upon the land tax.

The settlement operations commenced in 1907 under the advice of H. J. Hoare, a civil servant from the then United Provinces, referred to earlier. He undertook to advise as to the pitch of the assessment as suggested by the Settlement Officer. Hoare was assisted by a Settlement Officer and two Settlement Superintendents whose services were obtained on loan from the then Government of the Central Provinces. These operations were over by 1908-09 and the circle rate reports were passed in consultation with the Political Agent. The rents were calculated according to these reports and were entered in the *pattas*. The *pattas* were distributed by the middle of November, 1909.

This Settlement was described as, "the first regular Settlement attempted in the State upon modern lines".[1]

Although no details are available about the total assessment or the incidence of the land revenue arising out of this Settlement, it was reported in 1911-12 that the "rates of assessment of lands are reasonable and do not fall at all heavily on the ryots".[2] In the subsequent years also it was reported that the assessment rates were working well.

After the announcement of rents, the Land Records Department of the State was organised with the approval of the Political Agent from the 1st December, 1908, and a *sadar munsarim* was appointed. The following rules were also introduced for the working of the Revenue and Land Records Departments during 1908-09:—

(1) Patwari Rules.
(2) Rules for superior land records staff.
(3) Pateli Rules.
(4) Irrigation Rules.
(5) *Wajib-ul-arz*.

For administrative purposes the State was divided into four *parganas*, namely, Anjar, Rajpur, Silawad and Pansemal, each in charge of a *kamasdar*, whose work was supervised by the Revenue Officer. The *kamasdar* performed both revenue and judicial duties and in the former he was assisted by Revenue Inspectors, Patwaris and Patels. The total number of villages in these *parganas* in 1911-12 was 322, out of which 304 were *khalsa* and the remaining 18 were *jagir* villages. The number of villages in 1938-39 was 342, of which 16 were *jagir*

1. C. I. Agency Report, 1907-08, p. 48.
2. Barwani State Administration Report, 1911-12, p. 11.

villages. In 1944-45 this number rose to 419, of which 336 were *khalsa*, 16 *jagir* and 67 were forest villages. The State's income from land revenue in this year was Rs. 4,44,739. The land tenure system continued to be *raiyatwari* until the State's merger in the Union of Madhya Bharat.

In Madhya Bharat, the revenue administration in the territories of the different covenanting states was carried on in accordance with their respective laws till March, 1949. Steps were taken to consolidate and make uniform the *raiyatwari* laws on which every covenanting state had a different code. The system of revenue administration was eventually made uniform by promulgating the Land Revenue Administration Ordinance (No. 23 of 1949) in January, 1949. A Commissioner was appointed for each division and all the revenue officers of the division were placed under him. A *Suba* was appointed for each district, a Sub-Divisional Officer for each sub-division, a Tahsildar for each tahsil and a Naib-Tahsildar for each *tappa*. All the revenue officers of the District were placed under the *Suba* and those of the tahsil under the Tahsildar.

Reforms in respect of *jagir* villages were also introduced. Noteworthy among them was the promulgation of the Jagir Land Records Maintenance Ordinance (No. 21 of 1948) under which the maintenance of record of rights in *jagir* areas was taken over by the State and arrangements were made for the appointment of Patwaris and preparation of records through the Tahsildars. At the same time, in pursuance of the general policy of abolition of intermediaries between the State and the actual tiller of the soil, the Government of India appointed in August, 1949, a Committee known as 'The Rajasthan-Madhya Bharat Jagir Enquiry Committee' for examining the question of abolition of the *jagirdari* system in the States of Rajasthan and Madhya Bharat. In accordance with the recommendations of this Committee, the Madhya Bharat Jagirdari Abolition Act, 1951 (28 of 1951) was enacted and brought into force from the 7th December, 1951. On account of the *jagirdars* having challenged the validity of the Act in the High Court and subsequently in the Supreme Court, the implementation of this measure was, however, delayed until the 4th December, 1952, when all the *jagirs* were resumed by the State.

The Table below shows the number, etc., of *jagir* villages tahsil-wise in the reconstituted District of Khargone in Madhya Bharat on the eve of the abolition of *jagirdari* system:—

Tahsil	Jagir Villages	Area	Population	Total Income
	(Nos.)	(Sq. Miles)	(Nos.)	(Rs.)
1. Barwaha	27	33.29	6,273	26,386
2. Barwani	9	20.46	6,973	14,427
3. Bhikangaon	15	38.40	7,460	17,425
4. Kasrawad	14	23.00	3,926	24,593
5. Khargone	22	50.00	17,013	38,332
6. Maheshwar	29	39.06	12,292	44,962
7. Rajpur	11	41.00	11,849	20,400
8. Sendhwa	7	19.00	4,639	10,982
Total	134	264.21	70,425	1,97,507

The consequences of resumption were that all rights of *jagirdars* in *jagir* lands, etc., vested in the State free from all encumbrances. They were, however, allowed to remain in possession of land cultivated personally by them enjoying the same rights as an occupant has in *raitwari* land. The *jagirdar's* right to recover and levy cesses was abolished and the cultivators made directly liable for the payment of land revenue or rent that they used to pay to the *jagirdars*. The Act also made provision for the payment of compensation to the *jagirdars* for the loss of their rights.

The Table below shows the amount of compensation payable and actually paid in each tahsil up to 1961-62/1962-63:—

Tahsil	Amount Payable	Amount Paid
	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
Barwaha	3,71,788	2.68,864
Barwani	69,738	69,738
Bhikangaon	88,137	88,137
Kasrawad	77,487	74,342
Khargone	2,21,192	2,03,943
Maheshwar	1,25,270	1.25,270
Rajpur	1,09,752	1,09,752
Sendhwa	70,923	70,923
Total	11,34,287	10,10,969

During 1962-63 a sum of Rs. 46,114 as compensation alongwith Rs 3,049 as interest were paid in Barwaha Tahsil. No such amount was paid in any other tahsil. In 1963-64, the position was that practically no more compensation was to be paid to the *jagirdars* of the District. However, an amount of Rs. 207.96 had been deposited in Tahsil Barwaha under this account.

Following the abolition of *jagirdari* and *malguzari* systems a uniform system of land revenue administration has been introduced in all the villages of the District. In every village, there is a Patel through whom the land revenue is collected though he is not held responsible for arrears. He is remunerated by the grant of a certain percentage in the realisations made by him. Until recently the office of the Patel was hereditary and continued undisturbed so long as the incumbent was of good behaviour. Since the coming into force of the Madhya Pradesh Land Revenue Code of 1959, this office has become elective.

Recently, an experiment of land revenue collections through the village *panchayats* has been started in the District. Before they are entrusted with this work they have to furnish security to the Government.

The first *kist* falls due on 15th January and second *kist* on 15th May except in Barwani and Kasrawad Tahsils where they are payable on 15th June and 15th April, respectively.

Income from Land Revenue

The Table below shows the annual receipts under land revenue in the District from 1953-54 to 1967-68.—

(Rs.)

Year	Demand	Collection
1953-54	21,50,098	21,00,356
1954-55	22,46,304	22,28,219
1955-56	21,51,325	21,41,046
1956-57	21,51,531	21,49,946
1957-58	21,50,100	21,50,857
1958-59	21,59,922	21,53,821
1959-60	21,61,568	21,63,062
1960-61	21,94,561	21,72,653
1961-62	21,94,352	21,93,885
1962-63	22.00,073	21,99,414
1963-64	23-52,900	23,52,900
1964-65	22,03,627	22,03,627
1965 66	22,05,599	5,41,697
1966-67	20,70,860	1,78,499
1967-68	19,39,866	14,76,363

By the promulgation of Madhya Pradesh Land Revenue Code (Amendment) Act 1967 (No. 6 of 1967) land revenue on all uneconomic holdings meaning all agricultural holdings not exceeding 7.5 acres or holdings with a land revenue not exceeding Rs. five was abolished.

As a further measure of relief Madhya Pradesh Government by promulgating the Madhya Pradesh Land Revenue Code (Amendment) Ordinance, 1968 (No. 10 of 1968), abolished Land Revenue with effect from Ist July, 1968. However, simultaneously it also promulgated the Madhya Pradesh Krishi Bhoomi Vikas Kar Adhyadesh, 1968 (No. 11 of 1968), under the provisions of which Agricultural Land Development Tax has been levied. It is payable in respect of each holding used for purpose of agriculture, which is in excess of ten acres. The rate of the Tax is the same as that of the Land Revenue.

Tax on Commercial Crops

Receipts from taxes levied on commercial crops are shown below:—

(Rs.)

Year	Demand	Collection
1966-67	91,235	20,386
1967-68	7,30,927	77,182

Cesses

The following cesses, which were formerly levied in the District, were abolished in 1963: (1) *Babati*, (2) *Kumhar lag*, (3) *Lohar lag*, (4) *Jal lag*, (5) *Bharbhunja lag*, (6) *Bargunda lag*, (7) *Pedi*, and (8) *Jhopadi tax*.

At present only a Panchayat cess is recovered from cultivators on the basis of land revenue at the rate of 3 np. per rupee.

LAND REFORMS

Relations between Landlord and Tenant

As stated earlier, the tenure system in the Holkar State was *raiyatwari* and the cultivator of the soil engaged directly with the State. The *ijaradars* held sway over the cultivators in the State until the Settlement of 1908 (in Bhikangaon *pargana* this was till 1910). After the abolition of the *ijara* system, there was no intermediary between the State and tenants. At this time transfers of holdings were legal all over the State for the period of settlement on payment of certain mutation fees, but such transfers were common only in Nimar District. In order to control future transfers, rules regarding transfer of holdings were passed by the Darbar in 1908 and under them the transfers of sale were allowed subject to the vote of *amin*. Mortgages were not recognized and the mortgagee in possession received the status of a *shikmi* tenant only. It was the intention of the Darbar to stop transfers except between *bona fide* agriculturists.

At the Settlement of 1929 the tenant had the right to hold the land in his possession and that lawfully acquired by him subject to payment of rent fixed at settlement or subsequent thereto. Transfers of holdings were, however, found to be common in Nimar District.

But land was not transferable except by sale and with the written permission of the *Suba* of the District. In exercising it no effort was made to see that a tenant did not lose his land from which he earned his living, and that the land did not pass into the hands of a person who was not *bona fide* cultivator. There being no explicit provisions of law on these points, the permission became a formal matter and could be had for the asking.

Another interesting feature of the revenue system at this Settlement was in respect of mortgages of land. Although mortgages were recognizable, subject to State rules for the time being in force, the very existence of such rules for *raiyatwari* land could not be traced by the Settlement Officer. Mortgages did take place and they were also foreclosed in execution of a civil court decree. This position led the Settlement Officer to remark that, "the tenancy under the *raiyatwari* system stands on exact analogy with the tenancy of a house on hire".[1]

1. Rent Rate Report of Pargana Barwaha, District Nimar, 1927, p. 19.

Sub-letting was also not restricted in the State with the result that by the time, the settlement of the twenties took place, the area of sub-leases had risen in the District, the extent of the rise in Barwaha *pargana* being 245.64 per cent. This increase was attributed to increase in the areas held by the non-agricultural class, who acquired lands chiefly for speculative purposes. The genesis of the system of sub-letting and the evils arising from it can be had from the following observations of the same Settlement Officer:—[1]

"The growth of this practice combined with increase in the occupied area and fallow in holdings manifests a system of allotment of land under which many tenants have far more land than they can cultivate, while many have not enough or none at all and in order to maintain themselves, they are obliged to take land on whatever terms they can obtain. The remedy lies in fixing a limit as in British India, upto which a cultivator may acquire land and in putting a restriction on habitual sub-leasing. There are several among the non-agricultural tenants, who hold more than 100 acres each and one big money-lender of Barwaha holds as much as 1,600 acres of land situated in nearly 40 villages."

The freedom given in sub-letting was considered by the Settlement Officer to be undermining the very foundations of the *raiyatwari* system. To quote him again:—[2]

"The Ryotwari system is considered to be best suited in the interest of the agricultural class, but such loop-holes are ushering in the unrequired middle men between the State and the *bona fide* cultivators. In the interest of the agricultural class it is very necessary to place the sub-letting under some restriction."

When the Settlement Officer, Ram Sarup, wrote the Final Report on the Land Revenue Settlement of the State in 1929, he found that mortgages of land were neither permitted nor recognized. Further, occupancy right could ordinarily be acquired on payment to the State of an amount adjudged by competition. Occupiers of uncultivated occupied land (called *siwai*) who were formerly treated as non-occupancy, i.e., ejectable at will because it paid only a nominal revenue, were given the option of either paying full revenue for it or surrendering it. The former alternative was accepted by all without demur and accordingly at the Settlement of 1929 all occupied land was recorded in one and the same category without any distinction of occupancy (*asli*) and non-occupancy (*siwai*).

Another change introduced at this Settlement was in respect of land occupied out of the State waste without permission. A large part of such lands formed part of the holdings and as these paid full revenue, the owners thereof were recorded as possessing full occupancy rights.

The fixity of tenure enjoyed by the tenant, in conjunction with other rights conferred on him under the *raiyatwari* system led Ram Sarup to describe

1. Ibid., p. 20.
2. Ibid., p. 19.

the system as "a blessing to the tenantry in several respects". To quote him:—[1]

"The ryotwari system, which has been in force has proved a blessing to the tenantry in several respects and has contributed in no mean degree to their healthy growth while bringing more revenue to the State than were otherwise possible. As the tenant has to deal with responsible officers of the State, the chances of blackmailing or harassment are reduced to a minimum. He is almost free from the worries of litigation, enjoys a stable tenure and being under the direct eye of the State lives in peace and contentment."

The revenue system, however, suffered from one serious disadvantage and that was the lack of a definite policy. There was no codified revenue law and the administration was carried on by means of stray circulars, some of which were "very old, obsolete and unnecessary". A codified revenue law was, therefore, considered by the Settlement Officer of Barwaha to be a "desideratum".[2] Although attention towards this matter was attracted previously also, it was only in 1931 that a law, called the Indore Land Revenue and Tenancy Act (I of 1931), was passed largely on the advice of C.U. Wills, a civilian from the then Central Provinces and Berar and brought into force from the 20th April, 1931.

The provisions of the Act brought into clear relief the rights and privileges of the tenants, the conditions governing their tenancy of the land and other ancillary matters. The primary principle of the Act was the re-statement of the Ruler's universal landlordship, which made it possible to introduce necessary restrictions on the tenants' rights of transfer. Since this Act was described as, "the first Indian enactment to utilize the principle of the Ruler's universal landlordship for beneficial purposes, to prevent the ignorant agricultural classes from losing their lands",[3] a few of its salient features may be noted here. First, according to this Act, there were only two classes of tenants, viz., (a) the ordinary or unprotected tenant, and (b) the *pattedar* tenant. The ordinary tenant was practically the tenant-at-will whose number was very small in *khalsa* villages. The ordinary tenancy was, however, the common form of tenancy in villages held by a *jagirdar* or *istmarardar*. The *pattedar* tenant took the place of the former *raiyat pattedar*. The *pattedari* status was ordinarily conferred on persons in whose favour Government created a tenancy and practically all tenants in *khalsa* villages were declared *pattedar*. A *pattedari* tenant was entitled to have his rent revenue assessed under the order of Government and once this was done, it could not be enhanced until the end of the settlement period.

In order to prevent the *pattedar* from losing his lands, it was provided in the Act that although he could, with the previous sanction of the *Suba* and after the payment to Government by the prospective transferee of a fee equal to one

1. Holkar State Settlement Report, 1929, p. 54.
2. Rent Rate Report of Pargana Barwaha, District Nimar, 1927, p. 20.
3. C.U. Wills, The Land System of the Holkar State, 1931, p. 9.

year's rent of the land, transfer his rights in holding by sale, but the right could be transferred to a *bona fide* agriculturist only. This provision was also intended to deal with the problem of habitual sub-letting. With this end in view, it was laid down in the Act that culturable land, when newly allotted, should be transferred in permanent right only on one who came within the category of a *bona fide* agriculturist. The door for future entrance into the field of agriculture was thus closed for all but *bona fide* cultivators.

At the same time, instructions were also issued to the *Subas* enjoining upon them to carefully consider each application from tenants for permission to sell their rights. These instructions, in part read as follows:—[1]

"It will be essential for him to satisfy himself that the transfer will be to a *bona fide* agriculturist; but that is not the only point for his consideration. He must also satisfy himself that the sale is in the best interests of the transferring tenant and his family."

These instructions were intended to prevent needless transfers by voluntary sale.

Another important feature of the Act was the provision which withdrew from the tenant the right of mortgage he had previously enjoyed. Mortgages in favour of a co-operative credit society were, however, permitted as a special case.

A specific provision was also made in the Act to deal with the question of sub-letting. Although under the Act a *pattedar* tenant could sub-let the whole or any part of his holding for his agricultural purposes, he was forbidden to sub-let it solely with a view to obtaining rent or merely so as to remain an intermediary between the person from whom he held and the actual cultivator of the land. Further, a tenant, who was found at the time of the enforcement of the Act, to have sub-let or who in future sub-let any land in his holding, could be called upon by the *amin* to cultivate such land during the next agricultural year. On his failing to do so, his rights in such land could be sold by auction, under the order of the *Suba*, to a *bona fide* agriculturist. Inspite of these provisions, there was no appreciable improvement in the practice of sub-letting in West Nimar District as would be evident from the following Table:—[2]

Year	Area Sub-let (Acres)
1942	1,49,971
1943	1,47,074
1944	1,57,569
1945	1,41,778

1. Ibid., p. 18.

2. Holkar State Administration Report, 1945, p. 19.

In order to stop the practice of sub-letting some other measures were undertaken. These included the restoration of mortgaged lands under the Indore Restitution of Pattedar Tenants Mortgaged Lands Act of 1941. This Act enabled the *Suba* in the case of subsisting mortgages to extinguish the mortgages if, after necessary inquiries, it was found that the mortgagee had enjoyed possession of the mortgaged land or a *pattedar* tenant for more than 20 years. However, advantage of this Act was taken by the cultivators in Nimar District where during the year 1945 mortgages affecting 199.46 acres of land were extinguished. The Indore Land Revenue and Tenancy Act of 1931, which safeguarded the cultivators against wholesale exploitation and secured the land for those who actually cultivated it, remained in force until the State's merger in Madhya Bharat where another Act, called the Madhya Bharat Land Revenue and Tenancy Act, 1951, was enacted.

Coming to the position of the cultivators in the *jagir* villages, it may be stated that although they were left as ordinary tenants or tenants-at-will, a provision was made in the Indore Land Revenue and Tenancy Act by which the Government was authorized to confer, at any time, on them the status of a *pattedar* tenant after defining the area of home-farm, if any, of the *jagirdar*. It was, however, only in May 1948, that all the tenants of assigned villages were granted *pattedari* tenant rights. In the event of any such *pattedari* tenant failing to pay land revenue of his holding or for committing any breach of the rules could be dispossessed of his holding only under the orders of the *Suba*. So much about the landlord tenant relationship in Nimar District of the Holkar State.

As regards Barwani State, the land tenure system in that State was also *raiyatwari* as already stated. The position of the tenant and the rights enjoyed by him under this system until the first decade of this Century have been described earlier. No change took place in this position until the Minority Administration (1930-39) granted permanent occupancy rights to tenants with certain limitations regarding the transfer of holdings. Every tenant held the land under a *patta* granted to him by the State. The occupancy rights were heritable and also transferable with the permission of the Darbar. No succession fee was charged from direct heirs, but in case of indirect successions and certain specified alienations a fee at the rate of 12½ per cent of the value of the property involved was levied by the State.

The State undertook other measures to ameliorate the condition of the agriculturists by improving their tenancy status. In order to eliminate absentee landlordism and profiteering, Council Resolutions were passed on the 25th and 27th January, 1939. These Resolutions laid down in effect as follows:—

(a) that the lease of an agricultural holding, whether by a recorded tenant or an *inamdar* carrying on cultivation himself or otherwise shall not be for a period of less than five years.

(b) that a sub-tenant who had been in possession of land for five years or more could not be ejected from the land without the previous santion of the Revenue Member, such sanction to be granted only under exceptional circumstances, and

(c) that the amount of *munafa* shall not exceed the *jamabandi* for the land and if the lands were given on *saja batai*, the terms of *batai* would only be one of the kinds prescribed.

The process of tenancy reforms, as initiated by the above Resolutions, was continued during the subsequent period. In May, 1939, the provisions of these Resolutions relating to the amount of *munafa* or share of *saja batai* and to liability for eviction were made applicable to the then existing leases also. Another Resolution was passed in August, 1939, for the benefit of those recorded tenants and *inamdars*, who undertook to cultivate in future with their own *tadba* the holdings that had been leased by them. This Resolution provided for a written statement on oath made by a *khatedar* before a magistrate to the effect that he wished to do the cultivation of his land himself with his own *tadba* and that such a statement would be held by the Darbar to be a sufficient ground for ejectment on the expiry of a subsisting lease, of a sub-tenant of less than 12 years' continuous standing. This provision, however, did not apply to future cases in such a manner as to entitle any *khatedar* to evict a sub-tenant whom he gave a fresh or renewed lease of five years any time after the 31st March, 1940.

In January, 1940, the State passed a Council Resolution which re-stated that all the lands, whether *khalsa*, *inami* or *jagir*, were the property of the Barwani Darbar and that the *khatedars* thereof were merely occupancy tenants. A *khatedar*, in whose name the land stood was *prima facie* entitled to possession and could not in any way transfer any interest in or possession of the land standing in his name without the sanction of the Darbar. Conversely, no one could validly possess any land not standing in his name. By another Resolution passed in November, 1940, it was laid down that recorded tenants voluntarily transferring possession without Darbar's sanction or persons who were not recorded tenants and who were in possession without the Darbar's sanction would be liable to a fine of Rs. 200 in a revenue court. If after such conviction the person concerned did not have his name entered in the land records papers or regularised his possession within 12 months of the date on which he was convicted, the person in question lost all his claim to the land which became liable to attachment and sale as unclaimed property. The lands in the Silawad *pargana* and the Niwali Sub-Division were, however, excluded from the opera-

tion of some of these Resolutions. This was done with a view to preventing non-cultivators from acquiring agricultural land there.

After the formation of Madhya Bharat, many land reform measures were introduced. In order to prevent the harassment of tenants by *jagirdars* and to protect their rights against forcible ejection, arising out of the contemplated abolition of the *jagirdari* system, the Jagir Tenant's Land Restoration Act, 1949, was enacted to enable the tenants to re-acquire their dispossessed lands. Under this Act, the cultivators of *jagir* villages were also conferred the rights of *pacca* tenants.

Under the Madhya Bharat Abolition of Jagirs Act, 1951, every tenant of a *jagirdar* was deemed to be *pacca* tenant of the land cultivated by him personally. A sub-tenant or a tenant of a sub-tenant, who was in possession of any land in a resumed *jagir* land could also acquire the rights of a *pacca* tenant in his holding under certain conditions.

Attempts were also made by the Madhya Bharat Government to rationalize the land revenue and tenancy laws in the *raiyatwari* villages. For this purpose the Madhya Bharat Revenue Administration and Ryotwari Land Revenue and Tenancy Act, 1950, was enacted and brought into force from the 15th August, 1950. This Act not only consolidated the position of the tenants in the *raiyatwari* areas, but conferred occupancy tenant's rights on all those tenants who, or whose predecessors in interest, had been lawfully recorded as tenants. The Act also introduced certain restrictions on transfer of leases to enable more holdings of an economic size being created in future.

In the re-organized State of Madhya Pradesh the whole position regarding land tenures and tenancy reforms in the constituent units was reviewed and as a result a unified Land Revenue Code, 1959, was enacted and brought into force from the 2nd October, 1959. This Code incorporates all the important features of land reforms, such as, uniformity of tenures, protection of tenants against arbitrary ejectment, rack-renting and conferring *bhumiswami* rights on them.

In place of the previous tenures, the Code provides for only one class of tenure holders of lands from the State to be known as *bhumiswami*. A *bhumiswami* shall have rights of transfer subject only to one condition that such transfer does not either create a holding above a prescribed limit or an uneconomic holding below 10 acres. Subject to certain restrictions, he will have full rights over all kinds of trees in his holdings. A *bhumiswami* has also a right to mortgage his land both by the simple or usufructuary mortgage.

The Code protects the rights of sub-tenants who are given the status of occupancy tenants. An occupancy tenant can be conferred *bhumiswami* rights on his paying 15 times the land revenue in five equal instalments.

To protect the existing occupancy tenants of *bhumiswamis* from being rack-rented, it has been laid down that the maximum rent payable by an occupancy tenant shall not exceed four times the land revenue in the case of irrigated land, three times the land revenue in the case of land under *bandhas* and two times the land revenue in other cases. No sub-letting or leasing of land is now permitted except in very emergent cases once in three years or by certain classes of persons, such as, widows, unmarried women, minors, etc.

The land reforms indicated above affect more the type of tenure than the size of the property. Even so some restrictions have been imposed in this respect. The maximum of individual holdings in respect of future acquisitions was fixed at 50 acres by the former Madhya Bharat Government. In respect of existing holdings, the Government of Madhya Pradesh has enacted in 1961 a special law, which is known as the Madhya Pradesh Ceiling on Agricultural Holdings Act. According to this Act, apart from inherited land, no person shall acquire more than 25 standard acres per family consisting of husband and wife. Additional five standard acres have been allowed for dependants upto five to the maximum extent of 25 standard acres depending on the number of dependants, i.e., up to 50 standard acres.

The Table given below portrays the tahsil-wise distribution of number of holdings held by the different classes of tenure-holders in the District in the year 1964-65:—

Tahsil	Total Occupied Area (Acres)	Land Held by			
		Bhumiswamis		Government Lessees	
		Holdings (No.)	Area (Acres)	Holdings (No.)	Area (Acres)
Khargone	3,30,705	24,420	3,30,335	19	185
Bhikangaon	2,68,885	16,994	2,68,769	1,251	24,683
Barwaha	2,01,815	17,427	2,00,747	76	863
Maheshwar	1,31,608	10,608	1,31,381	20	159
Sendhwa	2,30,942	13,869	2,21,546	29	115
Kasrawad	1,61,525	14,439	1,61,520	1	£
Rajpur	2,08,430	15,145	2,06,354	785	2,042
Barwani	1,13,250	7,974	1,11,316	693	1,934
Total	16,47,160	1,20,876	16,31,968	2,874	29,981

£ Less than one acre.

Contd.——

Tahsil	Bhoodan Holders		Service Land		Occupancy Tenants	
	Holdings (No.)	Area (Acres)	Holdings (No.)	Area (Acres)	Holdings (No.)	Area (Acres)
Khargone	28	145	—	—	—	—
Bhikangaon	14	50	—	—	—	—
Barwaha	15	71	12	135	7	17
Maheshwar	9	58	—	—	—	—
Sendhwa	30	111	—	—	—	491
Kasrawad	1	5	—	—	—	—
Rajpur	8	34	—	—	—	—
Barwani	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	105	474	12	135	7	508

Nistar and Grazing Rights

Rules for village *nistar* and grazing rights were framed in the Holkar State at the Settlement of 1908, when it was laid down that, "every cultivator in any village shall have the right of pasturing his cattle in the State village waste and of cutting thorns for the protection of his field or house without any permission." Further, "Any cultivator wishing to take away from the State village waste, grass or firewood or Babul thorns or any tree not being a reserved species of tree, or a fruit tree or any produce or material which is not reserved by the Durbar, may do so with the permission of the village Panchayat...."[1] This position continued until the Holkar State Revenue and Tenancy Act of 1931 was brought into force. This Act also laid down the rights of the cultivators in regard to grazing and *nistar*, in the village waste and trees in their holdings. A tenant was given the right, free of charge, to graze his agricultural cattle in the waste land of his village and to collect from such waste land, grass, dry wood, thorns and leaves, for his agricultural or domestic purposes. Further, a *pattedar* tenant had the right to possess and to enjoy the produce of the trees standing on his holding. He could ordinarily cut down and utilize any trees other than those of certain prohibited varieties standing on his holding, if they interfered with the cultivation of his holding or were needed by him for his domestic or agricultural purposes. For *nistar* purposes like burning *ghats*, burial places, etc., specific survey numbers were kept reserved at the time of settlement and were entered in the *wajib-ul-arz*. Similar rights were also given in the Barwani State.

In Madhya Bharat, these facilities were not only continued but in 1954-55, ten per cent of the village area, if available, was also reserved for

1. Indore State Settlement Report, 1909, App. II, Rules 4 and 5.

grazing. Land for *nistar* purposes was, however, not fixed. This position prevalent in Madhya Bharat continues till to-day. Under the Land Revenue Code of 1959 two documents known as the *nistar patrak* and *wajib-ul-arz* are required to be prepared for each village. These documents specify the rights of the villagers over occupied and unoccupied lands in the village and seek to put an end to unnecessary litigation.

Bhoodan

The *Bhoodan* movement was launched in West Nimar District in February, 1952, by V. S. Khode, a Sarvodaya worker of Khargone, and others. Khode undertook a ten-day tour of the District in that year and received nearly 500 acres of land as *bhoodan*.

Vinoba Bhave visited the District in 1960 from the 25th August to 11th September. During this period, he covered the tahsils of Barwaha and Maheshwar, the places visited by him in the former Tahsil being Barwaha and Balwada while in the latter Tahsil the villages were Piplya, Karali. Dhargaon, Mandleshwar and Maheshwar.

Upto the end of 1962, 1,864 acres of land had been received in the District as *bhoodan* out of which 920 acres have been distributed to landless persons in villages.

OTHER SOURCES OF REVENUE—CENTRAL AND STATE

The important items of Central revenues in the District are Union Excise Duties and Income Tax. Some particulars about these are given below:—

Union Excise

The important excisable commodities in the District are tobacco and vegetable non-essential oils. The annual receipts from these sources in the District from 1950-51 to 1968-69 are given below:—

Year	Amount (in Rs.)
1950-51	76,711
1951-52	79,734
1952-53	46,909
1953-54	85,772
1954-55	1,11,010
1955-56	2,75,386
1956-57	7,71,413
1957-58	12,01,330
1958-59	14,13,169
1959-60	10,44,863
1960-61	9,90,810

Contd.....

Year	Amount (in Rs.)
1961-62	8,33,192
1962-63	9,50,889
1963-64	3,40,686
1964-65	4,96,135
1965-66	4,50,086
1966-67	5,29,973
1967-68	6,75,789
1968-69	8,62,161

Income Tax

Income Tax was introduced in the District from the 1st April, 1950, the receipts during 1950-51 being only Rs. 610. The receipts in the subsequent years are shown in the Table below:—

Year	Amount (in Rs.)
1951-52	21,006
1952-53	1,14,772
1953-54	—
1954-55	1,23,510
1955-56	2,39,459
1956-57	2,40,581
1957-58	3,34,250
1958-59	4,36,889
1959-60	3,89,865
1960-61	5,28,499
1961-62	6,14,611
1962-63	8,15,726
1963-64	7,97,357
1964-65	23,31,369
1965-66	18,70,313
1966-67	17,12,072
1967-68	22,97,950
1968-69	23,81,001

Estate Duty

Since 1956-57 the assessment, collection, etc., of this Duty have been entrusted to an Assistant Controller of Estate Duty for the Madhya Bharat

Region, first with headquarters at Delhi and from 1959 at Indore. The receipts under this head are given below:—

Year	Amount (in Rs.)
1957-58	3,000
1958-59	1,656
1959-60	14,063
1960-61	6,000
1961-62	—
1962-63	6,009
1963-64	1,504
1964-65	65,801
1965-66	1,981
1966-67	6,030
1967-68	4,886
1968-69	9,506

Certain important sources of State revenues, not already covered are Excise, Forests, Sales Tax, Stamps, Taxes on Motor Vehicles and Registration. These are dealt with below.

Excise

The annual receipts from Excise during the period from 1950-51 to 1968-69 are given below:—

Year	Amount (in Rs.)
1950-51	19,42,698
1951-52	19,56,449
1952-53	14,40,456
1953-54	16,86,870
1954-55	15,15,596
1955-56	15,58,782
1956-57	16,64,785
1957-58	20,76,625
1958-59	21,00,477
1959-60	20,40.512
1960-61	10,46,091
1961-62	7,09,073
1962-63	10,77,104
1963-64	8,41,964
1964-65	17,28,210
1965-66	17,30,025
1966-67	15,59,220
1967-68	15,90,807
1968-69	21,54,019

Forests

Figures of receipts under this head are available only from 1957-58:—

Year	Amount (in Rs.)
1957-58	19,33,043
1958-59	18,08,706
1959-60	17,05,240
1960-61	18,29,819
1961-62	20,19.077
1962-63	23,89,607
1963-64	31,85,646
1964-65	25,82,091
1965-66	27,82,576
1966-67	29,78,721
1967-68	33,09,407
1968-69	43,22,529

Sales Tax

Sales Tax was introduced in the District in 1950-51 when the receipts were of the order of Rs. 1,29,152. Since then there has been a progressive increase in the receipts from year to year as shown below:—

Year	Amount (in Rs.)
1950-51	1,29,152
1951-52	2,53,369
1952-53	2,42,360
1953-54	2,38,240
1954-55	2,01,652
1955-56	3,40,732
1956-57	3.94,760
1957-58	5,63,088
1958-59	7,02,228
1959-60	11,78,938
1960-61	12,38,692
1961-62	15,21,708
1962-63	15,26,671
1963-64	14,45,243
1964-65	19,91,615
1965-66	19,89,358
1966-67	15,47,351
1967-68	18,95,810
1968-69	25,10,934

Stamps

The annual income under this head, which is from the sale of stamps of various denominations—both judicial and non-judicial is shown below.—

Year	Amount (in Rs.)
1950-51	2,73,315
1951-52	2,85,119
1952-53	2,74,193
1953-54	2,71,859
1954-55	2,62,633
1955-56	3,71,782
1956-57	3,70,501
1957-58	4,00,338
1958-59	4,05,441
1959-60	3,99,798
1960-61	4,71,475
1961-62	5,17,069
1962-63	6,27,363
1963-64	7,47,528
1964-65	8,27,191
1965-66	6,19,592
1966-67	7,20,194
1967-68	10,60,779
1968-69	12,85,922

Taxes on Motor Vehicles

Until 1952-53 the receipts from this source were negligible. It is only since 1954-55 that the yield from this source has shown some substantial results. This will be seen from the Table below:—

Year	Amount (in Rs.)
1953-54	69,842
1954-55	9,96,000
1955-56	2,37,848
1956-57	2,62,684
1957-58	1,86,864
1958-59	74,823
1959-60	93,763
1960-61	1,10,968
1961-62	1,64,319
1962-63	1,88,430
1963-64	—
1964-65	—
1965-66	2,43,617
1966-67	3,90,843
1967-68	3,91,488
1968-69	3,68,528

Registration

The annual income under this head which is derived from registration fee, copying fee, etc., is shown below:—

Year	Amount (in Rs.)
1950-51	25,156
1951-52	35,021
1952-53	19,016
1953-54	30,236
1954-55	35,163
1955-56	45.414
1956-57	55,030
1957-58	67,891
1958-59	74,675
1959-60	70,492
1960-61	92,797
1961-62	94,212
1962-63	1,45,619
1963-64	1,41,888
1964-65	1,22,844
1965-66	1,18,599
1966-67	1,13,916
1967-68	1,79,153
1968-69	1,96,756

CHAPTER XII

LAW AND ORDER AND JUSTICE

The origin of modern system of legislation and Justice in this region has been rather recent. Previously it had a system of its own pattern for dispensing justice and redressing the grievances of the aggrieved. During the reign of the Muslim rulers, a system of law and administration was evolved and superimposed over the ancient pattern. So, during the Muhammadan rule in Indore the *Quazi* was the authority for administering justice in Malwa. This system was continued till the advent of the Maratha rule in the Malwa region.

System in Holkar's Nimar

During the early period of the Maratha rule there were no written codes of law and the general system prevalent in the territories of the Peshwa was extended to the districts of Malwa region also, though some of Muslim Laws continued to be in force. This system of summary trial and punishment without the help of written laws continued till the reign of Tukoji Rao I. For purposes of maintaining law and order the system of the former Muslim rulers was continued and adopted with suitable modifications. "The cases were investigated and either disposed of summarily by the local State officials themselves or submitted by them to a *Panchayat* or arbitration committee composed of respectable persons. In cases involving religious questions, the opinion of Hindu or Muslim religious experts was taken."[1]

When civil suits of very high value were instituted they came up before the Ruler himself, and the contesting parties were asked to deposit large sums of money as a guarantee of their good faith, the loser in the dispute forfeiting his deposit to the State.

The general system of judiciary was reorganised during the minority reign of Tukoji Rao II (1844-86). In the mofussil areas most of the *parganas* were held by private individuals on *Ijara* tenure (farming of land in the mofussil revenue), the state officer in such *parganas* being called the *Kamavisdar*. He continued to discharge both the revenue and judicial duties within his area. But in the larger *parganas* a separate *Vahiwatdar* used to do the civil work.[2]

The further reorganization of judiciary was effected during the ministership of Sir T. Madhava Rao (1872-75). He overhauled the whole set-up of the

1. Indore State Gazetteer, 1908. p. 163.
2. Ibid.

courts and defined their powers, and functions. As a result of his efforts by 1875 regular courts had been established and placed in charge of qualified officials. All these courts were set up on the models obtaining in British India. Even *Khasgi* villages which had till now remained independent were brought under the jurisdiction of the newly established Courts. As a result one District Court was established at Mandleshwar, and the revenue officers, *Subhas*, *Amins*, *Vahiwatdar* and *Thanadars*, were also invested with properly defined civil and criminal powers. The criminal powers given to the *Zila* Judges were almost identical with those enjoyed by a contemporary District Judge in British India. There was no pecuniary limit to the powers of a District Judge who enjoyed unlimited civil powers.

Powers of Subah

The district officer called the Subha was both a Revenue and Judicial officer. As a judicial officer he was a First Class Magistrate and *Zila* Magistrate also. Appeals from his decisions were heard by the *Zila* Judge.

Thus the civil and criminal courts established in the District during 1872-75 were divided into five grades with defined powers as under.—

Class	Name of Court	Original Jurisdiction	Appellate Jurisdiction
2nd	District Courts	All claims over Rs. 2,000/-	Appeals from courts of 3rd, 4th and 5th Classes.
3rd	Subhayat Court	Over Rs. 1,000/- upto Rs. 2,000/-	Appeals from courts of 6th class.
4th	Amins Court	Over Rs. 200/- & upto Rs. 1000/-	No appeallate powers.
5th	Vahiwatdars' Court	Oever Rs. 20/- & upto Rs. 200/-	-do-
6th	Thanadar's Court	Upto Rs. 20/-	-do-

There was a permanent District and Sessions Judge located at Mandleshwar. The original civil jurisdiction of the District Judges extended to suits the valuation of which did not exceed Rs. 10000, their other powers being as laid down in the Indore Civil and Criminal Procedure Codes, (Act IX of 1927 and Act III of 1904). The District Judges also exercised original jurisdiction to hear insolvency petitions and to grant probates and heirship certificates.

The machinery for the administration of criminal justice in the District, besides the Sessions Court, consisted of Magistrates of 1st, 2nd and 3rd class.

In the mofussil areas the Subah also exercised the powers of a District Magistrate. There were other Judicial Officers called *Munsiff* Magistrates in the District. The Munsiff Magistrates were Magistrates of the First Class who

were invested with powers to try civil suits valued upto Rs. 2,000 and Small Cause Suits upto Rs. 100.

In 1906 separation of the Judicial system from the executive branch was effected and the District Officers were set free to devote themselves solely to their revenue duties. After this reorganisation, the courts and their powers in the District were as follows.[1]

Courts in Nimar District (1906-08)

S. No	Name of Court	Headquarters	Power exercised.
1.	District & Sessions Judge	Nimar	Civil & Criminal
2.	Subha & Distt. Magistrate	Nimar	Revenue & Criminal
3.	Munsiff Magistrate	Mandleshwar	Civil & Criminal
4.	-do-	Khargone	—
5.	-do-	Maheshwar	—
6.	-do-	Barwaha	—
7.	-do-	Sanawad	—
8.	Subordinate Munsiff	Bhikangaon	—
9.	-do-	Sendhwa	—
10.	Subordinate Munsiff	Nisarpur	Civil & Criminal
11.	-do-	Warla	—
12.	Amin	Kasrawad	—

In 1907 British Civil Procedure Code was adopted. In 1922 the Munsiff's Court at Maheshwar was merged into that of Mandleshwar. In 1923 the Munsiff's court at Maheshwar was re-established after due enquiry about its necessity. In the same year the First Class Magistrates were empowered to try cases under section 99 of Indore Criminal Procedure Code.

In the year 1925 the Munsiff's Courts at Maheshwar and Sendhwa were abolished. "In the retrenchment made in the budget for the year 1922-23, the Munsiff-Courts at Maheshwar, Rampura, Sunel and Sendhwa were abolished. The Rampura and Maheshwar Courts were, however, re-established in the year after a period of some months on the representations made to the Government by the litigant public of the Rampura and Maheshwar *Mahals*. The Munsiff Magistrate at Sendhwa was invested with powers of a Magistrate of the Ist Class with Civil original powers upto Rs. 1,500/- and Small Cause powers upto Rs. 100/-."[2]

As this charge of the Munsiff Magistrate's Court was too large for a single officer to properly manage, an additional Munsiff of Mandleshwar working at Maheshwar with the necessary staff was appointed. This officer at Maheshwar was to try such cases as were sent to him by the Munsiff Magistrate at Mandleshwar. This system continued till the year 1925 when a separate court at Maheshwar was established.[3]

1. Indore Administration Report, 1906-07, p. 10.
2. Holkar State Administration Report, 1925, pp. 22-23.
3. Ibid.

In 1926, an additional *Munsiff* for Khargone Court with necessary staff was appointed to clear off the arrears of work. At the same time the jurisdiction of the courts of Mandleshwar, Maheshwar and Khargone was fixed.[1]

In 1929 the Civil Original jurisdiction of the *Munsiff* Courts at Sendhwa and Nisarpur was raised from Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 1,500 which was generally the jurisdiction of other *Munsiff* Courts.

The appointment of Additional District and Sessions Judges at Mandleshwar was continued.

Barwani State

In old days the ruling chief was the only judicial authority in the State. There was no regular judicial system. No regular rules were laid down as regards procedure and punishment. Whenever a crime was committed the case was brought before a *Panchayat* and was decided by the Rana in consultation with the *Panchas*.

Some reforms were introduced in 1871 when a Superintendent was appointed to try Civil and Criminal cases. Even at this time, merely short notes were taken, and no written statements were recorded. All cases were tried summarily and an oral order was generally passed. Serious cases such as those of murder or dacoity were sent to the Political Agency for final orders. During the period 1873 to 1885, a regular form of trial was introduced in which all statements were written down, and judgements duly recorded, and enforced in every case. Later on the British Penal and Criminal Procedure Codes were introduced, and limited criminal and civil powers were given to *pargana* officers.

During the Dewanship of Khan Bahadur Khory the judicial department was divided into separate courts and placed under a Chief Judge with powers of appeal and revision in civil and criminal matters. There were in all 19 subordinate Courts supervised by the Chief Judge. Above this court was the court of the *Darbar*, presided over by the Dewan. The jurisdiction of the *Darbar* court extended throughout the whole territory, both in original suits and as a court of appeal and revision, in civil and criminal matters. During the year[2] 1912-13 the Judicial Department was separated from the Executive Branch of the administration.

The reforms in the judiciary were further carried during the minority administration of 1930-39.[3] In that period all the non-qualified *Munsiffs* and Magistrates were replaced by carefully selected graduates in law and, thereafter,

1. Ibid., 1926, p. 19.
2. Barwani State Administration Report, 1912-13, p. 11.
3. Ibid., 1930-39, p. 68.

all the *pargana Munsiffs*, (except at Rajpur) were invested with powers to try suits upto the value of Rs, 5000 and the Magistrates with powers of First Class.

The following were the courts in the State as they existed after the reorganization of the Judical Department.[1]—

1. The Huzur Court.—It exercised the powers of a High Court which was the final Court of appeal in Civil, Criminal, Revenue, Municipal and Miscellaneous matters. It was presided over by the President of the State Council.

2. The District and Sessions Court.—It was the first court of appeal in both civil and criminal cases and also the original court in all Sessions Cases. In civil cases it was the original court in suits exceeding Rs. 5,000 in value.

3. The *Munsiff*-Magistrates' Courts at Barwani, Anjar, Rajpur,Khetia and Silawad.

The *Munsiff*-Magistrates at Barwani, Anjar, Silawad, Rajpur and Khetia exercised the powers[2] of a First Class Magistrate as defined in the Criminal Procedure Code along with summary powers under Chapter XXII of the said Code in addition to various civil powers.

In 1939-40 the State joined the Co-operative Group of Malwa States and agreed to have a Chief Justice common to all the States forming the Group. A retired District and Sessions Judge of the then United Provinces was appointed Chief Justice with the designation "Chief Justice for Malwa States."

After the formation of Madhya Bharat, the Judiciary was reconstituted on the lines of the judiciary as in the erstwhile British Provinces. The Civil Courts in Madhya Bharat were regulated by the Madhya Bharat Civil Courts Act, and those for criminal cases by the Code of Criminal Procedure in India, as adopted in Madhya Bharat.

Early in 1949, under these Acts, Civil and Criminal Courts came to be reconstituted, and the entire Judiciary of the District was placed under a District and Sessions Judge with headquarters at Barwani and the courts were reconstituted in this District in place of courts existing in the old State regime. Most of them were located at their original headquarters. The Subah was invested with the powers of the District Magistrate, and Tahsildars with powers of the Second Class Magistrates. The Tahsildars used to do case work in respect of security proceedings only. The Civil Judge Class II at Barwaha used to hold link-court at Sanawad for a week in each month for the convenience of the litigants.

1. Minority Administration Report of Barwani State, 1930-39, p. 69.

2. Barwani State Administration Report, 1939-40 to 1941-42, p. 20.

In 1952 this system was reorganised resulting in the abolition of Additional District Judge's Court at Mandleshwar and shifting of the headquarters of the District Court from Barwani to Mandleshwar. The court of the *Munsiff*-Magistrate at Khargone was constituted as Civil Judge, Class I, Khargone, and was invested with same powers as other Civil Judges, Class II used to exercise in the District.

In 1954 the court of the Civil Judge Class II, Khetia, was closed and instead a Court of Civil Judge Class II Sendhwa was asked to hold a link-court at Khetia for a week in a month.

In 1956, the Court of the Civil Judge Class II at Mandleshwar was shifted to Kasrawad. In 1957, the Court of Civil Judge Class II, Khargone, was closed and one Additional District and Sessions Judge was provided. By this time the amended Criminal Procedure Code No. 2655 came into force and the Additional District Magistrates ceased to exercise the enhanced powers resulting in the increase of Sessions work. To cope with it, an Additional District and Sessions Judge was provided. Again in 1958, Additional District and Sessions Judge at Khargone and Barwani were provided. In 1959 one more Additional District and Sessions Judge at Barwani was provided and Civil Judge's Court, Class II at Khargone was re-established only to be closed again in 1960.

Separation of Judiciary from Executive

The separation of Judiciary from the executive was introduced in Holkar's Nimar since 1906-1907. The Judicial powers (except powers under the preventive sections of I.P.C.) were transferred to a separate body of officers who were solely responsible for the disposal of cases. When this district formed a part of Madhya Bharat, penal side of the criminal law was administered by the Judicial Officers while the preventive side was allowed to rest with the Executive. Cases under Chapter VIII and XI of Criminal Procedure Code were tried by Sub-Divisional Magistrates, who were actually Sub-Divisional Officers, and the Tahsildars were exercising powers of Sub-Divisional Magistrate of Second Class. Later on the Tahsildars were relieved of this work and the powers were conferred on the Deputy Collectors, who were made Magistrates of First Class. In Barwani State the separation of the Judiciary from Executive was done in 1912-13.

Gaothi Panchayat of Holkar's Nimar

As early as 1909, *Gaothi Panchayats* composed of village Patel, village Patwari and three local tenants paying the largest revenue to the state, were introduced in all the villages of the State except in those maintained by Forest Department. They were looking after certain aspects of local sanitation and village waste lands,

Village Panchayat

In 1920, the Gaothi Panchayats were superseded by *Gram Panchayats* under Holkar State Panchayat Act 1920 (Act I of 1920). Under this Act the Panchayats were invested with judicial powers. Accordingly the Panchayats exercised civil powers under Rs. 15 in value.

In addition, the panchayats enjoyed certain criminal powers under sections 150, 277, 323, 352, 504 and 510 of the Indore Penal Code.

In 1928 this Act was replaced by the Indore Village Panchayat Act No. 8 of 1928. Every such Panchayat consisted of not less than six and not more than 15 Panchas including the *Sarpanch*. Under this Act there were three classes of Judicial powers for Panchayats, namely, (A) Primary Powers (B) Secondary Powers (C) Advance Powers. No legal practitioners were allowed to appear before the Panchayats and their decisions were final.

After the formation of Madhya Bharat the Panchayat Act, 1949 (No. 58 of 1949) was enforced from June 1949 under which Panchayats were effectively organised and the Government established a separate department of Panchayats.

Nyaya Panchayats

In 1951, Madhya Bharat Panchayat (Amendment Act No 26 of 1951) was passed. Under this Act the Panchayats were deprived of judicial powers and new bodies called Nyaya Panchayats were established. Each Nyaya Panchayat generally covered an area of a Revenue Inspector's Circle. The number of members of each ranged from 5 to 11. The members are elected by the Panchas of the Gram Panchayats of the area. The Sarpancha is elected by the Panchas. The normal term of a Nyaya Panchayat was one year.

The Nyaya Panchayats established under this Act enjoyed a number of Civil and Criminal powers. The Civil powers were defined by sections 67, 68, 69, 70 and 71 of the Act, while the criminal powers are enumerated under sections 75 and 76 of the Act. After the reorganisation of states, the M.P. Panchayats Act 1962 was passed. It defines the extent of civil and criminal powers of the Nyaya Panchayat. As regards civil powers they are empowered to entertain cases whose value does not exceed Rs 100. The judgements, decrees and orders of the Nyaya Panchayats are final, though the Sessions Judge in criminal cases and the District Judge in Civil matters have been empowered to call for and examine records of such cases and pass such orders as they deem fit.

INCIDENCE OF CRIMES

The tables below elucidate important crimes in the District during the ten years 1955-65. The crimes prevalent in the District are mainly in respect of offences against public tranquillity, affecting decency and moral, murder, attempt at murder, offences affecting life, hurt. wrongful restraint and wrongful

confinement, kidnapping and forcible abduction, theft, criminal breach of trust, cheating, simple trespass, counterfeiting of notes or coins, offences relating to local and special laws, offences against contempt of lawful authority or public servants, offences affecting public health, safety and convenience, criminal force and assault and offences relating to documents and falsification of accounts.

Crime Situation (1956 to 1968)

The Table below shows the work done and activities shown by the Police Force in controlling the crime situation in the District.

Year	No. of offences reported	No. of cases investigated	No. of cases detected	Percentage of cases detected to investigated	No. of cases in which conviction was obtained	Percentage of cases resulting in conviction to cases decided
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1956	1390	1232	906	73.53	479	—
1957	1442	1366	1040	76.13	418	—
1958	1573	1438	767	53.33	319	—
1959	1562	1579	1268	75.26	815	—
1960	2085	1889	1188	52.88	731	—
1961	2070	1959	1202	61.04	1008	83.9
1962	2009	1912	1244	65.00	1061	85.03
1963	2023	1881	1135	56.72	791	79.54
1964	2074	2028	1255	61.39	570	73.83
1965	2930	2872	1734	61.00	1039	67.00
1966	3806	3702	1475	40.00	1109	75.00
1967	4033	3953	2075	53.00	1511	79.00
1968	3555	3498	1995	54.00	922	50.00

Incidence of Crimes

The Table below shows the details regarding the important crimes in the District during 1956-68.

Year	Dacoity	Robbery	Murder	House-breaking	Ordinary thefts	Cattle thefts
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1956	5	8	56	229	538	73
1957	17	27	55	303	511	64
1958	4	16	58	348	520	110
1959	14	29	51	333	669	108
1960	34	80	66	510	692	66
1961	0	42	48	376	534	87
1962	8	27	52	427	673	115
1963	13	28	78	348	582	99
1964	11	25	59	427	641	93
1965	31	46	58	458	845	140
1966	48	76	67	801	1306	197
1967	39	46	74	940	1459	239
1968	28	45	66	600	1129	206

Cognizable Crimes

The Table below shows the position regarding the occurrence of cognizable crimes in the District during the period 1956-68.

Year	No. of cases reported	No. of cases investigated	No. of cases sent up for trial	No. of persons tried	No. of persons acquitted or discharged	No. of persons convicted
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1956	1390	1232	906	1338	296	767
1957	1442	1366	1136	1724	433	557
1958	1573	1438	767	1715	388	979
1959	1862	1682	983	1535	387	409
1960	2085	1889	730	2009	610	1399
1961	2070	1959	1519	4347	573	1893
1962	2009	1912	1237	4202	587	1864
1963	2074	2023	105	143	188	N.A.
1964	1986	2028	119	141	184	N.A.
1965	2930	2872	2677	5232	733	1821
1966	3801	3702	3149	6496	986	2900
1967	4038	3453	3210	6893	1230	3114
1968	3555	3498	3083	6750	1422	1787

Property Stolen

The Table below shows the details regarding value of property stolen and recovered during these years in the District.

Year	No. of cases in which property was stolen	No. of cases in which property was recovered	Percentage of property recovered to stolen	Total value of property stolen	Total value of property recovered	Percentage of value recovered to stolen
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1956	898	310	34.53	1,89,552	36,376	19.19
1957	864	302	35.00	2,13,608	32,168	15.00
1958	956	373	39.00	1,98,482	56,653	29.00
1959	—	—	—	1,69,181	41,216	24.40
1960	—	—	—	2,59,468	73,243	36.00
1961	1032	336	41.38	2,32,667	69.022	25.79
1962	1248	392	31.41	2,56,735	41,582	16.16
1963	1135	—	29.24	2,06,664	60,433	19.24
1964	1121	—	37.40	2,37,801	67,377	28.33
1965	1564	494	31.50	2,86,273	84,595	29.50
1966	2358	775	32.80	3,88,744	79,057	20.30
1967	2737	863	31.53	5,29,788	1,13,188	21.36
1968	1964	682	30.79	12,08,468	1,67,595	13.87

Miscellaneous Thefts

The Table below shows the details regarding the various types of thefts committed in the District during 1956-68.

Year	Copper Wire thefts	Cattle thefts	Cycle thefts	Motor Cycles & accessories thefts	Fire-arms thefts
1	2	3	4	5	6
1956	—	73	16	2	6
1957	—	64	9	—	4
1958	3	112	14	—	7
1959	7	108	22	1	4
1960	—	66	9	—	7
1961	6	87	16	—	3
1962	5	115	18	—	6
1963	8	99	18	—	25
1964	1	93	30	—	24
1965	2	140	42	2	5
1966	6	197	33	5	6
1967	6	239	59	4	5
1968	11	206	43	6	2

Ordinary Thefts

The Table below shows the details regarding the occurrence of ordinary thefts in the District during 1956-68.

Year	No. of cases reported	No. of cases investigated	No. of persons convicted	Total value of property stolen
1956	538	353	191	54,805
1957	511	369	230	83,932
1958	520	390	199	60,542
1959	669	496	176	52,960
1960	692	503	457	49,096
1961	534	423	286	61,083
1962	673	578	415	52,154
1963	582	520	149	41,930
1964	64[illegible]	595	142	95,153
1965	845	787	422	78,591
1966	1306	1202	732	1,07,481
1967	1459	1379	1146	1,49,650
1968	1129	1072	471	1,17,106

ORGANISATION OF POLICE FORCE

In Holkar's Nimar

Till the year 1872 the Police Force in Holkar State formed a constituent part of the State army and did not exist as an independent unit. In each *pargana* some of the Sepoys, called the Sibandi Sepoys, were posted at the head-quarters

of the *pargana* to perform duties of Police while a part of the same force was diverted for collection of revenue. The duties of the Police in villages were performed satisfactorily by the local Chowkidars. A special force called the 'Girai' was formed in the State for patrolling on the newly constructed Agra-Bombay Road (1835-1860) and as the road traversed this district also, a part of the contingent was posted in this District along the Highway.

The appointment of Sir T. Madhava Rao as minister in 1872 brought many improvements in the police organization. As a result of the newly introduced scheme a Police Department was created under the Durbar Judicial Department. For Nimar district, one Inspector of Police was appointed to look after and organise the efficient working of the police. The police force earmarked for this district included both the foot and mounted force. In addition, there were other subordinate ranks created below the District Inspector of Police. The highest authority for controlling the police force was the Durbar Judicial Department. At the same time it was decided that (British) Indian Penal Code, and (British) Criminal Procedure Code be followed by the officers in discharging their duties till the time the State prepared the law codes of its own.

During the Minority Administration of 1903-11 the State Police Force was organised under an Inspector-General of Police. During 1904 "training schools had been opened for the men of each district at Mohidpur, Rampur, Nimawar and Sanawad (for Khargone and Mandleshwar). These Schools are each in charge of a law and drill instructor, the men under tuition being recruited from the police of the district".[1] The working of the Police Force was further re-organised in 1926. According to the new scheme 3 Ranges were established at Mandleshwar, Indore and Garoth with a Deputy Inspector-General as the head. The District Superintendent of Police was given more freedom to do his proper work, namely instruction of his Sub-Inspectors, assistance in important cases and more inspection and supervision.

In 1927, the Police was empowered to look after the execution of the Motor Vehicles Act.

Another reform in the police organisation was done in 1931. The most important reform accomplished during the year was the abolition of Out-Posts in accordance with modern principles of police organisation.

In the Southern Range, new Station-Houses were provided, in lieu of the Out-posts, at Balwara, Ahirkheda, Khurrampura and Dahi, the Out-posts at Dorwa, Balakwada and Dehri being abolished. Thus, 11 new Station-Houses were established and 6 out-posts were made Frontier posts.

In 1937, the Mobile Motor Police was re-started which was deemed necessary to cope up with the increased work which could not be satisfactorily

1. Holkar State Police Administration Report, 1904-05, p. 4.

discharged by the police. In the same year a beginning was also made for the establishment of a Special Branch of Police.

In Barwani State

In Barwani State a regular Police Force was organised for the first time in 1884 and placed under the supervision of an Inspector. In the *Parganas* the police was under the control of the *Pargana* officers, the police Inspector supervising their general discipline and organisation.

Village watch and ward was done by village *mankers* and *balais*, who received certain *haks* (rights), getting a proportion of the village grain, calculated on the average, per annum.

The Inspector had his headquarters at Barwani. The force was divided into two (1) *Pargana* Police and (2) Hill Police. The *Pargana* Police consisted of 210 men and the Hill Police of 97 men, including 22 *Sowars* and 6 camel *Sowars*. The ratio was one policeman to every 3.8 square miles and to every 248 persons of the population.

The Police was armed with muzzle-loading guns, belts and bayonets. It was provided with a khaki uniform and turban.

During the year 1910-11 the department was re-organised and the Superintendent of Police was made the head of the Department in the District. The Superintendent had under him one Assistant Superintendent. The force was divided into two categories—the Reserve Police under a Reserve Inspector and the *Pargana* Police under an Inspector. In addition to these officers, there were other subordinates like Sub-Inspector, Grade I Grade II and Grade III, Subedar, Jamadar, Head Constable I Grade, II Grade, constables, etc.

A new post of Assistant Superintendent of Police was created in 1932-33[1] to assist the Superintendent of Police. This step added much to the efficiency of the department. Old-time Inspectors were replaced by educated and trained men. In the same year regular training was also started for all police officers, Head Constables and Constables in all kinds of Police work.

Upto the year 1943-44, the Central Provinces Police Manual was consulted in the administration of the department. But in that year the Police Adviser, Malwa States, prepared a Police Manual which was approved by the Durbar and applied to the State. In the same year,[2] on the advice of the Police Adviser, two Circle Inspectors were appointed for closer supervision of the working of the Police stations. The Barwani Circle included the police stations at Barwani, Anjar, Rajpur and patti and the Pansemal Circle included the Police-stations at Khetia, Pansemal and Silawad.

1. Minority Administration Report, 1930-39, p. 74.
2. Barwani State Administration Report, 1942-43 to 1944-45, p. 17.

A training class was also opened at Barwani for the training of Police Constables and recruits in 1943-44. Each Police Station sent one of its Constables at a time to attend the class. The course lasted for one month and included instruction in Law, Police Procedure and Drill.[1]

After the formation of Madhya Bharat the Police Force of each District formed a unit which was directed, regulated and controlled by the District Superintendent who was subordinate to the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Southern Range, Indore. The force was regulated by the Police Ordinance of Samvat 2005, (1948 A.D.) which provided for a uniform organisation of the Police force. It was later replaced by an Act in 1948.

Present Organisation of the Force

The District Police is headed by the Superintendent of Police with headquarters at Khargone. He is assisted by three gazetted assistants with their headquarters at Khargone, Barwani and Mandleshwar. In addition there is the subordinate staff of Circle Inspectors, Sub-Inspectors, Head Constables and Constables. For efficient working the force has been divided into the following categories.

(1) Prosecution Branch

The prosecution branch is headed by Police Prosecutor who has 7 assistants to assist him The Police Prosecutor looks after the office work and gives guidance to his assistants. The headquarters of Assistant Police Proorsecutors are enumerated below.—

1. Khargone
2. Barwaha
3. Bhikangaon
4. Mandleshwar
5. Sendhwa
6. Anjar
7. Barwani

(2) Police Head-Quarters Lines

There is a District Reserve Police Line at Khargone. The Reserve Inspector is in charge of headquarters line and he is assisted by a Reserve Sub-Inspector. The Reserve Inspector is responsible for the proper custody of stores. He works under the general control of Superintendent of Police and maintains discipline among the Policemen posted in lines.

(3) District Special Branch

The District Special Branch is in the charge of one Sub-Inspector who is assisted by competent staff.

1. Ibid., p. 18.

(4) District Crime Branch

The District Crime Branch was created afresh in 1962. It is headed by a Sub-Inspector assisted by his staff.

The Table in the Appendix shows the details regarding strength and cost of Civil Police.

Home Guards

The force came into being in this District with effect from 1st September, 1961. The force is a voluntary one on a quasi-military footing and is intended to supplement civil power and generally to assist the police in the discharge of their lawful duties in times of emergency. The administration of the force throughout Madhya Pradesh vests in the Commandant-General with headquarters at Jabalpur, and in this District the Company Commandant is the head.

Any person of not less than 19 and not more than 40 years of age, of height not less than 5'4" and chest 31" and satisfying a literacy test is eligible for enrolment. On enrolment every Nagar Sainik (Home Guard) undergoes a course of training for a period of not more than 2 months.

He is further bound to serve for a period of 6 months, after which he may be placed on the Reserve for a further period during which he may be called up. The District Magistrate is empowered to call him up when emergency demands and he shall be subject to his control during such emergency. Till October, 1955 in all 105 persons had been trained in the District as Home Guards. Out of these 22 persons had been trained as Non-Commissioned officers at Jabalpur. The latest batch commenced its training on 15th November, 1965 for three months and 24 persons were enrolled.

JAILS AND LOCK-UPS

The history of jails of West Nimar is the history of jails of former Holkar State and Barwani State.

In Holkar State there were apparently no regular jails even as late as the early 'seventies of the last century. There were lock-ups in the *parganas* and a jail in Indore city for long-term prisoners, but their condition was far from satisfactory. The present system of jail management thus dates from the establishment of central jails in 1877, one at Indore and the other at Mandleshwar with 330 and 150 prisoners, respectively, 40 of these being females. In 1911 segregation of juvenile offenders and of females at Mandleshwar was carried out. Jail rules were also revised.

In Barwani State there was one Central Jail at Barwani for long-term prisoners. There were also district prisons which also served as lock-ups at the *Pargana* headquarters where convict prisoners could be detained for the maximum

period of a week. Formerly, there was one more Jail *viz.*, at Pansemal where convicts sentenced by the Magistrate Court, Khetia, to undergo imprisonment up to one month used to be kept. This was done as there was no good means of communication between Pansemal and Barwani. Since the construction of a metalled road in the year 1937 joining Barwani to Pansemal and Khetia, the necessity to maintain a separate Jail at Pansemal ceased and all such convicts were now easily brought to Barwani to be kept in the Central Jail. The Jail at Pensemal was, therefore, abolished on 24th August, 1938.

Organisation of Old Central Jail, Barwani

The institution was thoroughly reorganized during the early years of the *minority* Administration (1930-39). It was placed in charge of a qualified Superintendent who was provided with residential quarters near the Jail in the interest of closer supervision. An experienced Inspector of Police was appointed as Jailor and two clerks were posted to assist him in Office work. The untrained, undisciplined and inefficient warders who worked as Jail guards were replaced by efficient trained police constables and made responsible to the Superintendent of Police. After thorough organization of the Jail Staff, the U.P. Jail Manual was ordered to be taken as a guide in the management of the Jail. All labour outside the Jail premises was discontinued as it tended to weaken discipline and afford chances of escape.

The Jail in Barwani was not so much a penal establishment as a house for correction. The aim of the authorities was to provide prisoners with training which could serve them to earn an honest living after their release. The prisoners were trained in weaving, making *durries* and *niwars*, carpentry and other useful occupations. The Jail had three weaving factories in which carpets, *durries*, *niwars* (tapes) and *khaddar* of various designs were manufactured. It was also equipped with a carpentry shop where durable and excellent articles of furniture were made. An experienced carpenter was also appointed as a technical instructor in carpentry. Later, tailoring and pile-carpet making were introduced.

Present Location of Jails and Lock-ups

There is one District Jail, three Sub-Jails and two Lock-Ups in the District. They are located at the following places:—

A. District Jail at Barwani.

B. Sub-Jails at Khargone, Mandleshwar and Sendhwa.

C. Judicial lock-ups at Khetia and Sanawad.

District Jail, Barwani

In the new set-up of the Jail Department the Barwani Jail has been classified as Class II District-Jail. This Jail is the District Jail for West Nimar District (Khargone). The Inspector-General of Prisons is the Chief supervising officer and the District Medical Officer is the *ex-officio* Superintendent of this Jail. There is a separate female-ward for the female prisoners.

Following Table shows the average daily population for the last five years.—

NUMBER OF PRISONERS

Year	Prisoners at the beginning of the year			Received during the year			Total		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1960	11	—	11	308	1	309	319	1	320
1961	25	—	25	389	6	395	414	6	420
1962	11	—	11	562	16	578	573	16	589
1963	47	—	47	611	8	619	658	8	666
1964	45	—	45	507	5	512	552	5	557

Year	Discharged from all causes			Remaining at the end of the year			Total daily average of prisoners		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1960	294	1	295	25	—	25	16.83	0.05	16.88
1961	403	6	409	11	--	11	22.07	0.15	22.22
1962	526	16	542	47	—	47	37.54	1.06	38.60
1963	606	7	613	45	1	46	56.84	0.37	57.2
1964	510	6	516	42	—	42	45.08	0.37	45.45

Welfare of Prisoners

Vocational Training

At the District Jail, Barwani, prisoners according to their aptitude are trained in crafts and industry.

As already stated earlier, the Jail has *Durrie* and Niwar Industry. Facility in training in *Ambarcharkha* is also provided in the Jail. The Jail has a garden. Vegetables required for the prisoners are supplied from the garden. The prisoners work in the garden and they are trained in the improved method of cultivation and gardening.

Educational facilities

District Jail, Barwani, has its own school and a whole-time teacher has been appointed for it. All prisoners are provided with opportunities to attend class. The Jail has a library with a large number of books on moral education, agriculture and gardening. Educational programme in the jail aims at initiating the prisoners in three R's. A reformist preacher is also provided for imparting cultural and moral instruction to prisoners.

Board of Visitors

A Board of Visitors has been constituted for the Jail. It consists of official and non-official members appointed by the Government. The Collector and District Magistrate, Khargone, is its Chairman. Appointments of members are made by the Government on the recommendation of the Commissioner and notified in the Government Gazette. The term of its appointment is 2 years.

PRESENT ORGANISATION OF CIVIL AND CRIMINAL COURTS

After the re-organisation of Madhya Pradesh and merger of the old Madhya Bharat State in it, a new Civil Courts Act of Madhya Pradesh was enacted. It came into force with effect from January 1959 and the various Civil Courts were reconstituted as following.

S. No.	Name of Court		Headquarters
1.	District & Sessions Judge's Court		Mandleshwar
2.	Additional District & Sessions Judge's	Court	Mandleshwar
3.	Additional District & Sessions Judge	"	Khargone
4.	Additional District & Sessions Judge	"	Barwani
5.	Civil Judge Class I	"	Mandleshwar
6.	Civil Judge Class I	"	Khargone
7.	Civil Judge Class I	"	Barwani
8.	Civil Judge Class II	"	Maheshwar
9.	Civil Judge Class II	"	Kasrawad
10.	Civil Judge Class II	"	Barwaha
11.	Civil Judge Class II	"	Sanawad
12.	Civil Judge Class II	"	Bhikangaon

S. No.	Name of Court		Headquarters
13.	Civil Judge Class II	Court	Sendhwa
14.	Civil Judge Class II	,,	Anjad
15.	Civil Judge Class II	,,	Khargone
16.	Civil Judge Class II	,,	Mandleshwar
17.	Civil Judge Class II	,,	Barwani

The Civil Judge Class II-Cum-Magistrate First Class, Sendhwa is required to hold a link-court at Khetia for about a week in each month. Similarly, Courts at Sanawad and Bhikangaon are linked.

The Collector is invested with the powers of a District Magistrate. The Deputy Collectors, at Khargone, Mandleshwar and Barwani are invested with powers of Magistrate First Class and they all deal with the cases filed under the provisions of Criminal Procedure Code for security proceedings. The Tahsildars in this District have been invested with the powers of Second Class Magistrates.

CASES HANDLED BY COURTS

(a) Criminal Cases

The Table below shows the details regarding the number of offences reported in the District during the period 1960-64.

Year	Offences under I. P. C.	Offences under Cr. P. C.	Offences under Special and Local laws
1960	1337	274	1733
1961	1453	245	2352
1962	1531	316	3212
1963	1337	282	4628
1964	1444	414	1268

(b) Civil Suits

The Table below shows the details, yearwise, regarding the total number of suits for money and moveable property and other suits in the District during 1956-68.

Year	Total No. of suits for money and moveable property	Total No. of Title and other suits
1956	3,346	913
1957	3,135	729
1958	1,666	1462
1959	2,511	640
1960	2,376	532
1961	2,521	563
1962	2,435	626
1963	2,783	613
1964	2,624	754

1965	2,321	715
1966	1,823	549
1967	2,463	526
1968	4,303	730

LEGAL PROFESSION AND BAR ASSOCIATION

In 1902 rules were drafted by the Judicial Secretary of the Holkar State for conducting the pleadership examination. Thereafter an examination was held annually by the *Sadar* Court, which also granted *Sanad* to successful candidates. From 1913 admission into the ranks of the bar was limited to those who had passed the State Pleadership and Mukhtayar's Examination. The Examination was discontinued from 1930, vide Legal Department Notification No. 22 dated 26th August, 1930. But this was again revived by 1938. Specific rules and enactments were made in the Holkar State for examination of legal practitioners from time to time. There were two grades of Pleaders.[1]

1. High Court Pleaders
2. District Pleaders

Minimum qualifying condition for High Court Pleaders was that the candidates must have passed the Intermediate Examination of any Indian University, while for District Court Pleaders minimum qualification was the passing of Matriculation Examination. For appearing at Mukhtayar's examination a sufficient knowledge of reading and writing Hindi only was necessary.

Bar Associations

At present, Bar Associations are existing at Mandleshwar, Khargone, Anjad, Sanawad, Kasrawad, Sendhwa, Burwaha, Barwani, Rajpur and Bhikangaon.

(i) Mandleshwar

It is the oldest Bar Association of the District. It was formed in 1864 when the court of the District Judge was established for the first time in Mandleshwar. Thus the history of the District Bar Association at Mandleshwar is as old as the Court itself. In 1963 the Association had 20 members all of whom were advocates. The annual membership charged is Rs. 18. The Association has a library and also a written constitution of its own.

(ii) Khargone

The Bar Association was probably formed in 1916. The constitution of the Association was drafted and put into effect in 1963. The association had 32 members in 1963.

1. Rules and Orders in Holkar States, 1938, part II, p. 484.

(iii) Anjad

The Bar Association was formed in 1938 with only three members. The present strength of the Bar is 10 members. There is no written constitution of the Association.

(iv) Sanawad

The Association was founded in 1915 and there were only four members at that time as against five in 1963. There is a written constitution of the association.

(v) Kasrawad

The Association was formed in 1956 when the Court of Civil Judge Class II and Magistrate I Class was established here. The membership at the date of formation was six only and this has continued unchanged till to day. There is no written constitution of the association.

(vi) Sendhwa

The Association was formed near about the year 1927 though Sendhwa had been the seat of a court since 1905. In 1927 there were three pleaders and in 1963 there were eight members in this Association. There is a good library of the legal books in the office of the association which has got upto-date books. There is no written constitution of the association.

(vii) Barwaha

The present strength of the association is only five. The date of founding is not known. There is no written constitution of the Association.

(viii) Barwani

This association was formed near about 1921 with only eight members while the present strength is eighteen members. There is no written constitution of the Association. It has got a good library of nearly 400 law books.

CHAPTER XIII

OTHER DEPARTMENTS

An account of the State Government Offices representing various departments at the District level is given in this Chapter. However, certain departments discussed elsewhere, in chapters, X-General Administration, XII - Law and Order and Justice, XV - Education and Culture, and XVI - Medical and Public Health Services, do not find place in this chapter.

Excise

The District Excise Officer is the Head of the Excise staff in the District. He is responsible for the Excise administration and is assisted by two Circle Inspectors with their headquarters at Khargone and Barwani, respectively. Of the Sub-Inspectors eight are placed in the headquarters of each tahsil. One Sub-Inspector is posted at Khetia on the road crossing the State boundary while another acts as a leave reserve. The District office is provided with necessary staff while the field officers are provided with Sepoys, the field assistants.

There is a distillery at Barwaha under the supervision of an Excise Supervisor, who also is assisted by a Sub-Inspector. There is a *Ganja* Godown at Sanawad being supervised by an Excise Inspector assisted by a Sub-Inspeclor. Also there are five ware-houses for the supply of liquor, opium, *ganja* and *bhang* in the District.

Departmentally, the District Excise Officer is under the control and guidance of the Assistant Commissioner for Excise, Indore, although, he works under the immediate supervision of the Collector.

Forests

Since, July, 1st 1961, the forests of the District under the management of the Forest Department have been divided into two Divisions, *viz.*, East Khargone Division, Khargone and West Khargone Division, Barwani. Each Division is in the charge of a Divisional Forest Officer who is responsible for the protection and improvement of forests and technical work of his Division. In policy matters, they are guided by the Collector. The Barwani *Patraks* (Assessment Forms) of forest villages are prepared by the Patwaris of Revenue Department. Both the Divisional Forest Officers are under the control of the Conservator of Forests, Indore Circle, Indore.

East Khargone Division consists of seven ranges, *viz.*, Maheshwar, Barwaha, Balwada, Khargone, Bistan, Bhikangaon and Sanawad, while West Khargone Division consists of five ranges, *viz.*, Barwani Pati, Sendhwa, Pansemal and Warla. Each range is divided into Range Assistant's Circles and sub-divided into Forest Guard Beats. East Khargone Division has a Sub-Division with headquarters at Barwaha, while West Khargone Division also has a Sub-Division with its headquarters at Sendhwa.

There are 3 Assistant Conservators of Forests, 9 Range Forest Officers, 10 Deputy Rangers, 26 Foresters and 183 Forest Guards in the East Khargone Division. The Assistant Conservators of Forest or Attached Officers as they are called, supervise the field work, which includes maintenance and protection of Government forests in their respective jurisdictions. The Sub-Divisional Forest Officer, Barwaha, does the same job in his sub-division, in addition to his administrative duties. The Range Forest Officers, besides attending to the technical work in their respective areas, are also responsible for collection of forest Revenue. They are assisted by Sub-Range Officers or Deputy Rangers and Foresters, as the case may be. Their main duty is to patrol the forests and supervise the work of Forest Guards. The Forest Guards patrol the forests of their Beat and carry out the silvicultural operations.

The other Forest Division in the District is the West Khargone Division with headquarters at Barwani. It is the Divisional Forest Officer who is responsible for the administration and technical works of this Division. He is assisted by 2 Assistant Conservators of Forest, 7 Forest Rangers, 10 Deputy Rangers, 22 Foresters and 140 Forest Guards. This Division has a sub-division with its seat at Sendhwa. One of the Assistant Conservators is posted here as Sub-Divisional Officer of forests. In all there are 5 ranges and 101 beats in West-Khargone Forest Division covering an area of 999.3 sq. miles (2600.3 sq.Km) of forest.

Agriculture Department

The Deputy Director of Agriculture, Khargone, advises and assists the Collector in matters pertaining to Agriculture. The Deputy Director is under the Direct administrative control of the Joint Director of Agriculture, Indore Division, Indore, and is responsible for the agricultural activities in the District. Assisting him in field work are two Assistant Directors. He is also assisted besides the office staff, by a Technical Assistant and three Agricultural Assistants in the office.

The Deputy Director also supervises the work of agriculture sector of the Development Blocks, through the respective Agriculture Extension Officers. The Jurisdiction of each Agricluture Extension Officer is confined to the Block in which he is posted.

In addition to the normal agriculture work, the Deputy Director controls the schemes for cotton development, sugarcane cultivation, irrigation potential

utility, etc., launched in the District from time to time. Certain number of Agriculture Assistants and Demonstrators are deputed to push through these schemes, their strength depending upon the importance of each scheme.

For administrative convenience three Soil Conservation Sub-Divisions were set up in the district at Khargone, Burwaha and Barwani, respectively, each being headed by an Assistant Soil Conservation Officer. The Khargone Sub-Division embraces Khargone, Kasrawad and Bhikangaon Tahsils, while the Burwaha Sub-Division includes Burwaha and Maheshwar Tahsils and the Barwani Sub-Division extends to Barwani, Rajpur and Sendhwa Tahsils. A fourth Sub-Division has been created in the year 1967.

Each Assistant Soil Conservation Officer is provided with 5 Agricultural Assistants-and 20 Surveyors for field work, besides the usual subordinate staff. These are divided into parties and posted at convenient places to survey the area, chalk out schemes of work and its implementation.

All Assistant Soil Conservation Officers are under the jurisdiction of the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Khargone.

The Soil Conservation Division has been placed, now under the control of the Deputy Director of Agriculture, West Nimar, Khargone. The above mentioned staff is meant to check soil erosion and help in cantour-bunding and for adopting preventive measures. The problem of soil erosion is acute throughout the District due to the removal of floral cover, unplanned agriculture and grazing and lack of human efforts to protect the soil.

Veterinary Department

The District Livestock Officer, Khargone, is incharge of the activities of the Veterinary Department in the District. He works under the control of the Deputy Director, Veterinary Services, Indore who in his turn is responsible to the Director of Veterinary Services, Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal.

All the eight tahsil headquarters in the District have a Veterinary Hospital each. Besides, two hospitals are functioning at Pansemal and Sanawad. Each of these hospitals is in charge of a Veterinary Assistant Surgeon, who is assisted by two Shalihotries.

In addition to the hospitals mentioned above there are 20 departmental and ten outlying dispensaries. *Shalihotries* are in charge of these dispensaries. The outlying dispensaries are run in co-operation with the Development Blocks.

There is a Mobile Veterinary Unit in the District, which is provided with a Veterinary Assistant Surgeon and two *Shalihotries*. This Unit tours throughout the District and its office is located at Khargone.

There are Artificial Insemination Units in the District situated at Khargone, Bhikangaon, Barwani, Rajpur, Sendhwa, Kasrawad, Kedia and Maheswar. The local staff of the Department looks after this work too. In order to ensure a regular supply of semen to these units, a semen Production-cum-artificial Insemination Centre is run at Segaon. A Veterinary Assistant Surgeon is incharge of this centre.

The District has thirteen Cattle Breeding Extension Units situated at different places. Breeding bulls are provided at these units and each of the units is in charge of a Stockman.

The stray old and unproductive cattle of the District are housed with necessary facilities in the *Gosadan* at Okhla. The Manager of the *Gosadan* is of the rank of a Veterinary Assistant Surgeon. He is assisted by one Stockman, eight Kamdars and a Fieldman.

There is also a Departmental Poultry Unit at Barwani, in charge of a Poultry Superviser. He is assisted by a Poultry Attendent. The District Poultry Unit is located at Khargone Block. At Balwada is situated a Sheep Breeding centre, being managed by a Stockman. Magra rams are kept here for improving the breed of sheep of the area.

Fisheries Department

Initially in 1954-55, the Assistant Fisheries Officer, Dhar, exercised jurisdiction over Nimar (West) area. At that time the fisheries development work in Nimar (West) was looked after by a Fisheries Warden, having his headquarters at Barwani. But considering the great scope for fisheries development in the District, an Assistant Fisheries Development Officer was appointed in 1956, with his headquarters at Khargone. However, his office was shifted to Khandwa in 1958, only to be brought back to Khargone during 1962-63.

The Assistant Fisheries Officer is assisted by two Fisheries Inspectors and other sub-ordinate staff. The activities of the Department consist in collection, stocking and distribution of spawn and fish-seed and extraction of fishes from the stocked tanks.

The Department has also organised two Fishermen Co-operative Societies in Gon and Batwara villages of Khargone District, consisting of 19 and 33 members, respectively.

Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings)

The Nimar Division of the Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings) is headed by an Eexcutive Engineer, with headquarters at Khargone. His jurisdiction extends throughout the District of Nimar (West) as well as to some portions of Dhar District. He works under the supervision of the Superintending

Engineer, Indore Circle, Indore. The Executive Engineer is the professional adviser to the Collector in the district in matters concerning Public Works. He is also responsible for the execution of work in the Division. The Department is mainly concerned with the construction and maintenance of roads and buildings. The Executive Engineer also looks after the realisation of the departmental revenue and its remittance by his subordinates.

The executive Engineer is assisted by five Sub-Divisional Officers of the five Sub-Divisions into which the District is divided, *viz.*, Khargone, Barwani, Mandleshwar, Rajghar and Sendhwa. Each Sub-Divisional Officer is responsible for execution of the departmental work in his Sub-Division. In their turn they divide the work among the subordinate sectional officials.

In the Divisional Office, the executive Engineer is assisted by one Junior Engineer, one Draftsman, two Assistant Draftsmen, one Overseer and two tracers, besides the usual subordinate staff. The Junior Engineer prepares plans, estimates and designs, in which work the other technical staff assists him.

Public Works Department (Irrigation)

The Public Works Department, Irrigation Division, Khargone, embraces the two revenue districts of Nimar-West and Nimar-East and is headed by an executive engineer. The executive engineer is subordinate to the superintending engineer, Irrigation Circle, Hoshangabad. The Executive Engineer is assisted by a Divisional accountant and a Draftsman-an Overseer at the headquarters and by two Sub-Divisional Officers posted at Khargone and Thikri. The Minor Irrigation Sub-Division, Khargone, is meant for construction and maintenance of irrigation works in Khargone, Bhikangaon, Barwaha and Maheswar Tahsils and a part of Kasrawad Tahsil. The Sub-Divisional Officer is assisted by a Junior Engineer, four Overseers and a Sub-Overseer.

The Segwal Project Sub-Division, Thikri, looks after construction and maintenance of irrigation works in Rajpur, Barwani and Sendhwa Tahsils and a portion of Kasrawad Tahsil. The Sub-Divisional Officer is assisted by three Overseers and three Sub-Overseers.

Industries

The District Industries Officer, West Nimar, Khargone, is headed by an Assistant Director of Industries. This office works under the Directorate of Industries, Bhopal. The Assistant Director of Industries, is assisted by an Inspector of Industries besides the usual subordinate Staff.

The District is divided into 16 Divelopment Blocks, out of these, twelve Blocks have been provided with an Extension Officer each, to look after their industrial activities.

The District Industries Office arranges for financial assistance in the form of loans and subsidies, to industrial units, of both, individuals and cooperative societies, besides rendering all possible assistance to entrepreneurs in setting up new industries. Sometimes, the Office also recommends subsidies on power-consumption for industrial purposes. The Department helps promotion of small-scale industries, by arranging for supply of machinery on Hire Purchase system, by recommending issue of import licences by allotment of quota of controlled commodities, such as iron and steel, coal, copper, zinc, etc., and by assisting the small industrialists to market their products. Besides, the Department helps the implementation of Khadi and Village industries Programme, as also in organising and financing cooperatives.

Yet another important function of the Department is to impart training in various trades and crafts. For this purpose, the Department is running two centres, *viz.*, the Mat-Weaving Centre, Bablai, and the Government Tanning Centre, Anjad. The Tanning Centre, Anjad, is Common Facilities Centre, and about 150 tanner families are availing themselves of the technical assistance of the Supervisor of that centre and using the modern machines for tanning raw hides installed in the centre.

Cooperation

The work of the Cooperative Department in the District is being looked after by the Assistant Registrar of Cooperative Societies, who works under the direct control of the Deputy Registrar, Indore Division, Indore. The Deputy Registrar is responsible to the Registrar of Cooperative Societies, Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal.

The Assistant Registrar, Khargone, is assisted by two Senior Inspectors, one Marketing Inspector, two Audit Inspectors, One Audit Officer and 16 Sub-Auditors.

The District has 16 Blocks, but only 15 Blocks are provided with Cooperative Extension Officers to look after the Cooperative activities of the Blocks. A Special Officer (Pilot Project) is also working in the District for guidance and development of Cooperative Farming Societies. He is assisted by a Junior Extension Officer. The handloom Factory, Maheshwar, has also been transferred to the charge of the Assistant Registrar in 1963-64.

At present there are 626 different types of Cooperative Societies in the District covering 80 per cent of villages and 32 per cent of population. The total advances made by the Cooperative Banks amount to Rs. 152.69 lakhs.

Panchayat and Welfare

The District Panchayat and welfare officer is in charge of the District Panchayat and Welfare which is a part of the Collectorate. Earlier the Depart-

ment was being controlled by one of the Deputy Collectors. The Panchayat and Welfare Officer works under the guidance of the Directorate of Panchayat and Social Welfare, Bhopal. He also looks after the works of Social Education. He is assisted by a team of Social Education Officers, Lady Social Education Organisers, Panchayat Extension Officers and Village Assistants working in various Blocks.

The Office helps the promotion and organisation of various social and educational activities in the District. They include running of adult literary classes, circulating libraries, rural (radio) listening centres, film-shows and similar other programmes to disseminate information about the Five Year plans. The Office also disburses aid sanctioned by the Government, to governmental and non-governmental agencies, promoting the welfare activities of the people in the Blocks.

The institutions created by the Department under the Madhya Bharat Panchayat Act, are the Mandal Panchayat, 12 Kendra Panchayats, 18 Nyaya panchayats and 344 Gram Panchayats. Mandal Panchayat West Nimar is the only representative body of the Kendra Panchayats and Gram Panchayat in the District and directs and controls them. The Kendra Panchayats have been established at Development Block level. These represent the Gram Panchayats and do some obligatory and voluntary duties for the civic development of people. The Gram Panchayats aim at the progress of the people, keeping order and disposing of petty quarrels. The Nyaya Panchayats provide cheap and easy justice to the rural people on petty cases upto a limited extent under the constitution. All these bodies have been sanctioned their separate staff. Secretaries for several of the Gram Panchayats according to their workload and economic condition have been appointed.

Harijan and Tribal Welfare

The functions of the Rural Uplift Department of the erst-while Madhya Bharat State were taken up by the Tribal Welfare Department which started functioning in the year 1953. The District Organiser, Harijan and Tribal Welfare, Khargone, is in charge of the welfare activities for these people belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the District.

In 1953-54, four welfare centres were opened at Silawad, Warla, Bagawahapura and Zirnia. Each centre has a Circle Organiser, a Vaidya, a Midwife, a *Dai* and other usual staff. The above team is striving for the educational, social and economic betterment of the tribal classes within the radius of ten miles from the respective centres. Initially these centres were placed under a Regional Organiser at the District level. He was to co-ordinate the welfare programmes with other departments at his level and was responsible for the proper functioning of the Welfare Centres. A Deputy Collector supervised his work in the Collectorate. With the increase in volume of the work, the post of Regional Organiser was abolished and that of the District Organiser was created

in the year 1962-63. He works as the Development Assistant to the Collector, so far as the Tribal Welfare Programme is concerned.

Departmentally, the District Organiser is under the control and supervision of the Director of Tribal Welfare, Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal and is assisted by an Evaluation Section with a Statistical Assistant, and the usual subordinate staff.

Besides, each tahsil of the District has a Circle Organiser, to bush through the Tribal Welfare Programme.

Economics and Statistics

The District Statistical Office, Khargone was established on 16th October, 1965, with a District Statistical Officer as its head. The Statistical Officer assisted by a technical hand......designated as the District Statistical Assistant, works under the advice of the Collector. For administrative purposes, the officer is directly responsible to the Director of Economics and Statistics, Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal.

The District Statistical Officer collects up-to date statistical data, occasionally conducts socio-economic surveys under the direction and supervision of the Directorate at Bhopal, and maintains systematic record of the progress of development schemes in the District. There is also an Economic Intelligence Section, to acquaint the people with the comparative progress of the District, *vis-a-vis* the other 42 districts of the State. The District Statistical Officer is also to promote improvement in the quality, range and usefullness of all statistical data collected at the District level.

Information and Publicity

The District Information and Publicity Office, with the District Publicity Officer as its head in the District, was established in 1956. The office acts under instructions from the Directorate of Information and Publicity, Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal.

The District Publicity Officer is mainly concerned with giving publicity to governmental activities, especially those relating to Five Year Plans. He supplies factual information and keeps a watch over what appears in the local press and sends clippings of items, containing adverse criticism of the Government to the Directorate for necessary action.

The District Publicity Officer publicises the aims and achievements of Five Year Plans by arranging lectures, songs,dramas, exhibitions and film-shows about the plans. Occasionally, he distributes literature concering the Five Year Plans. Information of educative value is also disseminated to the people during floods and epidemics, so as to enable them to view things in their correct perspective.

There is an Information Centre at Khargone attached to the Officer, which is open to public during office hours.

Situated on the Bistan Road, the District Information and Publicity Office is run by four government employees headed by the District Publicity Officer.

Employment Exchange

An Employment Exchange started functioning since March, 1960, at Khargone. This Exchange exercises jurisdiction over the west-Nimar District. The Office is headed by an Employment Officer, who is assisted by a Statistical Assistant and other subordinate staff. This Exchange is functioning under the administrative control of the Director of Employment and Training, Madhya Pradesh, Jabalpur. The Exchange envisages the registration and placement of employment seekers against gainful jobs, collection of employment market information on "the Establishment Reporting system" and study of employment and unemployment trends.

An Employment Information and Assistance Bureau is also running at Block Development Office, Rajpur (Rural work Programme) for providing employment assistance and vocational guidance, headed by a Junior Employment Officer.

CHAPTER XIV

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

From the available accounts of the ancient period, it may not be out of the way to infer the existence of local self-government in this region.

Numismatic evidence from Ujjyaini and Jwaleshwar Bedi, consisting of two coins, bearing the legend "Mahisati' (that is Mahismati, commonly identified with Maheshwar) and a crude glass seal from Maheshwar itself, bear testimony to the fact that as early as in the 3rd century B.C., Maheshwar enjoyed the status of an independent City State, with a well-devised system of local administration. Probably the neighbouring tribal republics of the Punjab and Rajputana had some influence over this polity.[1] An inscription, dated in the year 42 (120 A.D.) with a record of Mahapana's victory over Anupadesh (Southern Malwa) and also of a gift of 3000 *Karshanapas* by his son-in-law Ushavadatta, for the benefit of the Budhist monks of a cave at Nasik, has been discovered in that cave itself. It was stated in that lithic record that the gift was proclaimed and registered at the town hall and the record office, according to custom; and the entire sum was invested in the guilds of Goverdhana.[2] Obviously, it suggests that corporate life in this area reached a highly developed stage of progress under the Saka rulers. Again, in the Indore Copper Plate Inscription of Skandagupta, whose empire is believed to have included this district in the middle of the 5th century A.D., a gift is recorded of a Brahmana, who endowed a temple of the Sun and transferred the temple properties to a guild of the local oil-men of the town of Indrapura.[3] Though these guilds were essentially socio-economic institutions under nominal regal control, these bodies exercised final judicial and executive powers over their subscribers.[4] During the reign of the Paramara rulers from 9th to the 14th century, A.D. the whole country was divided into a hierarchy of administrative units, the lowest of which was a village, with a *Pattalik*, managing its whole affairs. Each of these villages had a traders' guild to control and regulate its economic as well as social activities.[5] These village communities, which were actually like self-contained republics and almost independent of the far off Imperial control, acted as a bulwark against the confusion of frequent dynastic

1. Journal of the Numismatic Society of India, Vol. XV, pp. 70-72 and 201; Vol.XVII, Part II, pp. 94 and 95.
2. R.C. Majumdar, Corporate Life in Ancient India, pp. 34-35.
3. Radha Kumud Mookerji, Local Government in Ancient India, p.94.
4. R.C. Majumdar, op. cit., pp. 62-63.
5. D.C. Ganguli, History of the Paramara Dynasty, pp. 236-244.

changes and political revolutions. During the Muslim period these local institutions suffered a set back. When the area fell under the British influence there was a natural tendency to replace the age-old political system by new western institutions which dealt a fatal blow to self-government local units.

People of the princely states into which this district also fell were keen onlookers to this gradual evolution, and continuous struggle for some amount of actual political power. Curiously enough, when other popular political movements could not make any appreciable headway in this feudal enclave till 1931, local self-government activities had started as early as 1867 at Barwaha, the former capital of the Holkar rulers. During the reign of Tukoji Rao II, a municipality was set up at Barwaha in 1867, followed by Sanawad in 1893 and Kasrawad in 1905. These bodies were not regular municipalities in strict sense as their sole function was to build up local funds by certain zealous local officers with or without the assistance of local committees and utilize the amount for public welfare.

With a view to regularising local self-Government on a firm footing and to associate people with local administration, the Indore District Municipal Act was passed in 1914. According to its provision Municipal Committees were created at 21 places, including Mandleshwar, Khargone, Maheshwar, Kasrawad, Sanawad, Barwaha and Sendhwa.[1] Nisharpur and Bhikangaon had their own councils in 1929. Members of these committees were nominated by the Government, on the recommendations of the *Subah*, both from the public and from the State officers for a fixed period. The local *Amin*, who acted as the *ex-officio* President, assessed local taxes, prepared budgets in consultation with the local committee, and to submitted those for sanction to the *Subah* who was the highest controlling officer. The income of the committee was derived mainly from house-tax, wheel-tax, tax on profession and cess on opium. On its major share was utilized for administration and for providing public roads, drains, street lights and protection from fire, within the municipal area. The local medical officer, who served as the paid Health Officer was a nominated member. So also was the local *Saristadar*, who acted as the Secretary. Generally these bodies were self-supporting, needing special grants from the State only for specific purposes.[2] Later on elective elements were introduced in the Municipalities by 1931 and the constitution of these committees underwent vital changes, attaining uniformity of administration and a sort of *quasi*-permanent status.

After the formation of Madhya Bharat in 1948, the new District of West Nimar, had municipalities at Barwani, Anjar, Rajpur, Khetia, Newali, Pansemal, Bagod, Padlia, Thikri, Khargone, Bhikangaon, Barwaha, Maheshwar, Sendhwa, Mandleshwar, Sanawad and a combined municipality for Silawad, Patti and Palsud. Out of these local bodies, only those at Barwani, Anjar, Rajpur and Khe-

1. Indore State Administration Report, 1914, p. 36.
2. Indore State Gazetteer, 1931, Vol. I p. 324.

tia, and eight municipalities of Nimar were having population upto 5,000. So all others ceased to function as municipal bodies with effect from 26th December, 1957, according to the provisions of the Madhya Bharat Small Municipalities Abolition Act of 1951. Thikri ceased to function from 21st January, 1951.

After the formation of Madhya Bharat, these municipalities were governed by local acts, rules and regulations, which were not sufficient to meet the changed circumstances. Their financial condition too was not satisfactory. To achieve uniformity in municipal administration in the State and to associate fully the people with Local Self-Government, the Madhya Bharat Municipalities Act, was passed and brought into (M. B. Municipal Act, drafted on the lines of the U. P. Municipal Act) force from 26th January, 1954. During the intervening period, however, these municipalities differing vitally in relation to constitution, for functions and powers were allowed to function according to the provisions of their respective regulating Acts with some modifications. The Adult Franchise Act 1951 enabled the people to participate in municipal elections on adult suffrage basis. Necessary amendments were made in the election rules by the enactment of Madhya Bharat Qanoon Municipality, Hai-Riyasat Gwalior (Amendment) Act and the Indore District Municipal (Amendment) Act in 1952-53. The Madhya Bharat Small Municipalities Abolition Act of 1951 was another land mark towards proper growth of these bodies.

Before the implementation of the Madhya Bharat Municipalities Act of 1954 Municipalities of Khargone, Sanawad, Maheshwar, Barwaha, and Sendhwa enjoyed the 'A' rank, while those situated at Bhikangaon, Mandleshwar and Kasrawad were placed in the 'B' group. The remaining municipalities of Madhya Bharat were classified as 1st, 2nd and 3rd class institutions. Barwani Municipality was a second class body while those at Anjad, Rajpur and Khetia were placed under the third class. The Municipal President, who was normally its executive head was either elected by the Councillors or nominated by the Government. The committees were empowered to levy, with previous sanction from the Government, housetax, cesspool tax, octroi, wheel tax, terminal tax and entertainment taxes at enhanced rates. In addition, the Government sanctioned grants-in-aid for general as well as specific purposes. Madhya Bharat Government passed a Local Authorities Loans Act in 1950 to regularise the sanction of loans, but there was no such rational basis for grants-in-aid.

The Madhya Bharat Municipalities Act of 1954, embodying the progressive principles of self-government, proved a land mark in the history of Local Self Government activities in this region. Besides bringing about uniformity it increased powers and scope for independent working of the municipalities in as much as the most salient feature of this Act was to do away with the old practice of having nominated President and Councillors, as it clashed fundamentally

with the principle of Self-Government. In its place a Municipal Council, wholly consisting of elected members and also members selected by them, by single transferrable vote, had been provided. For Khargone the prescribed ratio of elected and selected councillors was 16; 4; for Sendhwa, Sanawad, Barwaha, Maheshwar, Mandleshwar, Rajpur and Khetia it was 8:2; for Barwani 12:3, while the ratio was fixed up as 5:1 for Bhikangaon and Kasrawad. Provision was made for biennial retirement of the selected members by rotation. Special seats were reserved for the first time for members of Scheduled Castes and Tribes on population basis. The post of Inspector-General of Municipalities was retained to exercise state control and supervision over district municipalities. The general policy of the Government had been to give wide powers to these Municipal Councils but at the same time to exercise only supervisory control over them, so that they might soon achieve the desired standard.

Under the Act of 1954 a municipality having an annual income of Rs.75,000 or above, or serving a population of 15,000 or above, was declared a First Class municipality, while other civic bodies having an income and population below these figures were placed into Second Class. The Khargone Municipality, was placed in the first group and the remaining eleven Municipalities were declared as Second Class. Later on Sanawad and Barwaha Municipalities were up-graded to the Ist category. Barwani and Anjar too qualified for it afterwards but as the Act of 1961 was already on its way the Government was reluctant to affect any new change.

The Act provided for the creation of a managing committee, consisting of not more than nine and not less than four councillors in Khargone Municipality. In all other Municipalities the whole council acted in that capacity. They were also empowered to appoint executive sub-committees and consultative Committees. All solvent municipalties were allowed by this Act to sanction their own balanced and supplementary budgets, under intimation to the Inspector-General of Municipalities.

Financial Sources.

All district Municipalities were authorised to levy with prior sanction from the Inspector-General of Municipalities any or all of the following taxes.—

1. Tax on houses, buildings or lands.
2. Tax on vehicles, boats and pack-animals.
3. Octroi on goods or animals.
4. latrine or conservancy tax.
5. general sanitary cess.
6. water-rate.

7. lighting tax.
8. fees on the registration of cattle and tax on dogs.
9. betterment tax.
10. terminal tax.
11. performance tax and entertainment tax.
12. tax on pilgrims.
13. tax on trades and professions.

No basic change was made in the Act of 1954, regarding obligatory and discretionary duties of these civic bodies but a provision was made for a Chief Executive Officer, and as far as possible, a Health Officer, an Engineer, an Assessment or Revenue Officer and other Executive Officers to each Municipality for proper discharge of these functions.

In new Madhya Pradesh provisions of laws differed basically from region to region specially in regard to municipal constitution, function, measure of government control and grants to local bodies. Therefore, a committee was appointed by the State in 1957 to go into the question and to suggest modification in the existing Acts, so that an over all uniformity could be achieved. Based on the recommendations of the Urban Local Self-Government Committee, the Madhya Pradesh Municipalities Act of 1961 was passed, and implemented in all Municipalities in 1962.

Main features and changes, introduced by this Act are three, namely,

(1) Instead of three classes, Municipalities are divided into 4 categories *viz.*, class (1) with a population exceeding 50,000; class (ii) with a population between 20,000 to 50,000; class (iii) between 10,000 to 20,000; and Class (iv) with a population not exceeding 10,000.

(2) Among the selected councillors numbering not more than ¼th of the total elected councillors, one seat is reserved for a woman, to be selected by the elected councillors from among the electors.

(3) The term of the council and the officer of the councillors are extended to 4 years from 3 years.

Under Section 29 of the Act the State Government is empowered (a) to determine the total number of councillors (b) to divide the municipality into wards, define their limits and membership, (c) to fix the number of reserved seats for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and to allot them to various wards from time to time, (d) to constitute in a prescribed manner the following state municipal services to be called (1) State Municipal Service (Executive) (2) State Municipal Service (Health) (3) State Municipal Service (Engineering). All these

officers and officials of the Council are being placed under the direct subordination of the Chief Executive Officer.

The post of the Inspector-General of Municipalities was abolished and all municipal bodies were brought under the direct control of the Local Self-Government Department of the State Government.

At present 12 municipalities are functioning in the District. The following Table gives an idea of their jurisdiction and the civic population under them after integration into the Union of India.

Name of Municipality	1951				1961			
	No. of persons it serves	Area under its juris-diction (acres)	K. M.	No. of Wards.	No. of persons it serves.	Area under its juris-diction (sq-miles)	K. M.	No. of wards.
1. Barwani	13,896	647	2.62	9	17,446	68	1.76	9
2. Barwaha	1,857	316	1.27	8	11,188	60	1.55	8
3. Sanawad	1,937	331	1.35	11	11,130	3.16	8.18	7
4. Maheshwar	7,525	590	2.38	9	73,310	92	2.38	7
5. Mandleshwar	5,094	179	0.73	8	5,481	28	0.73	7
6. Rajpur	6,753	657	0.23	1	18,985	10	0.26	7
7. Anjad	8,114	209	0.86	1	10,525	21	0.54	7
8. Kasrawad —Committee Dissolved					5,927	12	0.31	4
9. Sendhwa	8,390	60	0.23	9	13,247	26	0.67	7
10. Khetia	5,033	1280	5.18	1	6,938	47	2.62	0
11. Khargone	20,762	400	1.63	3	30,652	3.91	10.13	16
12. Bhikangaon Committee Dissolved					4,350	69	1.79	4

With the implementation of the new Act of 1961 the principle of double member constituency has been abolished and in its place a uniform policy of single-member constituency has been adopted. The following arrangement has been tentatively fixed by the Government in regard to the structure of each of these units.

Name of the Municipality	Class of Municipality	No. of Councillors		No. of wards
		elected	selected	
Khargone	II	20	5	25
Bhikangaon	IV	5	1	6
Barwani	III	14	3	17

Name of the Municipality	Class of Municipality	No. of Councillors		No. of wards
		elected	selected	
Barwaha	III	12	3	15
Kasrawad	IV	6	1	7
Anjad	III	12	3	15
Mandleshwar	IV	6	1	7
Sanawad	III	12	3	15
Rajpur	IV	9	2	11
Sendhwa	III	12	3	15
Maheshwar	IV	9	2	11
Khetia	IV	6	1	7

In spite of frequent territorial and administrative changes from 1948 on wards all the municipalities could maintain their steady progress. A statement of their financial resources at different stages would certainly corroborate the fact.

ANNUAL INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF MUNICIPALITIES

Name of Municipality	1947-48 Income	1947-48 Expenditure	1955-56 Income	1955-56 Expenditure	1960.61 Income	1960.61 Expenditure
1. Khargone	47,143	42,628	4,28,980	1,35,706	4,57,167	3,20,452
2. Bhikangaon	—	—	39,974	39,955	60,394	60,896
3. Barwani	30,397	29,618	67,018	47,009	1,69,352	1,49,426
4. Barwaha	20,679	12,619	24,373	60,370	1,45,74	44,761
5. Kasrawad	—	—	15,137	10,466	46,207	39,625
6. Anjad	16,975	13,007	77,566	40,979	94,177	1,15,250
7. Mandleshwar	6,959	6,929	22,930	29,531	43,921	37,589
8. Sanawad	34,992	43,609	1,41,335	1,04,249	1,75,575	2,19,905
9. Rajpur	—	—	3,949	28,949	67,653	50,307
10. Sendhwa	26,402	17,414	97,129	41,739	1,33,789	94,742
11. Maheshwar	—	—	28,313	28,326	96,970	95,182
12. Khetia	14,474	6,294	50,950	29,715	96,152	1,00,712

Name of Municipality	1961-62 Income	1961-62 Expenditure	1962-63 Income	1962-63 Expenditure	1963-64 Income	1963-64 Expenditure
1. Khargone	5,15,865	4,73,600	6,71,199	16,471	5,68,178	5,37,213
2. Bhikangaon	60,342	37,566	62,808	5,64,70	69,432	71,399
3. Barwani	1,35,300	1.71,251	1,39,193	1,47,759	1,85,937	1,96,307
4. Barwaha	1,66,699	2,32,533	5,95,807	6,32,052	2,08,308	1,97,395
5. Kasrawad	53,263	46,441	39,786	54.886		
6. Anjad	92,033	83,039	93,049	81,552	1,20,625	1,09,403
7. Mandleshwar	45,639	42,725	47,583	44,374	1,92,957	2,11,768
8. Sanawad	1,69,683	2,18,439	2,29,745	2,40,911	4,68,539	4,68,495
9. Rajpur	63,354	54,319	72,333	79,234	97,235	61,664
10. Sendhwa	1,46,867	98,383	1,52,276	1,46,844	2,22,563	2,57,663
11. Maheshwar	80,596	80,745	74,139	75,387	85,581	89,261
12. Khetia	99,558	1,03,997	1,66,959	1,66,895	1,83,062	1,83,309

Name of Municipality	1965-66 Income	1965-66 Expenditure	1966-67 Income	1966-67 Expenditure	1967-68 Income	1967-68 Expenditure
1. Khargone	4,21,659	5,00,901	4,96,497	5,69,095	5,88,717	6,09,377
2. Bhikangaon	75,173	74,625	92,343	84,798	94,576	77,077
3. Barwani	5,66,057	5,42,920	6,68,438	6,65,475	5,81,557	5,08,953
4. Bar waha	1,85,756	2,03,847	2,06,082	2,11,795	3,21,155	3,19,867
5. Kasrawad	47,897	48,635	57,931	62,662	59,649	64,000
6. Anjad	1,01,322	1,10,164	1,10,630	1,14,440	1,35,622	1,10,986
5. Mandleshwar	50,586	58,137	76,175	96,945	91,412	94,680
8. Sanawad	1,82,920	1,97,537	2,13,309	1,99,833	2,42,653	2,18,386
9. Rajpur	92,085	84,802	1,00,496	98,607	1,25,270	1,05,638
10. Sendhwa	1,94,292	1,98,770	2,22,827	2,23,770	2,21,450	2,17,384
11. Maheshwar	63,351	63,467	65,439	75,873	67,808	68,586
12. Khetia	1,22,544	99,785	1,37,603	1,09,125	1,49,955	1,38,158

The twelve Municipalities of the District are dealt with individually in the following pages to give a broad idea about their structure and achievements at different stages.

1. Barwaha

It is the oldest Municipality of the former Holkar State in as much as its nucleus was established in 1867. It was brought under a uniform and regular system in 1914. but till 1929 no representative element was introduced in it. The first election took place in 1929 and a Municipal Committee was formed with six elected and six nominated councillors; the ratio was changed to 12:4 in 1947-48 12:3 in 1948-49, 10:5 in 1950-51 and 8:2 from, 1956-57.

It is a very solvent body having a surplus budget every year. The Committee spends a large sum annually on public utility items like street lighting, sanita-

tion and Public Works. The Table below shows expenditure incurred by the Municipality on some important items.

Year	Street lighting	Public Health	Public Works	Water supply
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1956-57	5,055	21,097	1,441	2250 for survey
1957-58	4,562	23,809	2,248	1750 for survey
1958-59	6,248	7,718	1,534	—
1959-60	7,728	4,860	1,193	—
1960-61	9,606	6,751	1,941	—
1961-62	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	—
1962-63	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	—
1963-64	13,583	40,901	5,227	16,000
1965-66	51,660	56,966	952	—
1966-67	8,130	63,059	6,200	—
1967-68	12,702	60.616	3.508	—

In 1963 the construction of a Water Works at an estimated cost of Rs. 7,97,000 was taken up. Out of this amount 50 per cent of its total cost was sanctioned by the State Government as loan and 30 per cent as grant-in-aids. A further loan of Rs. 39,000 was recieved from the Life Insurance Corporation for its implementation. It is expected that after its completion the municipality would be in a position to supply 20 gallons of pure water per head per day.

2. Khargone

The Municipality was set up in 1914 solely with nominated councillors and functioned till 1931 under the direct control and supervision of the local *Subah*. After the enactment of the M.P. Municipalities Act of 1954 it was having 16 elected and 4 selected (by the elected) members and 4 sub-committees, viz., Assessment Committee, Public Works Committee, Sanitation Committee, and Finance Committee.

Since its inception the financial position of the Municipality is quite sound. The Table below shows the details and the expenditure. Its principal sources of Income are rent on houses and land octroi and Government grant-in-aid.

Expenditure on

Year	Water supply	Public Health	Public Works	Street Lighting
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1956-57	11,042	43,850	12,933	14,529
1957-58	11,190	59,226	15,514	19,867
1958-59	33,330	52,025	28,665	23,976
1959-60	35,457	56,039	11,679	28,586
1960-61	43,575	59,996	27,402	29,502
1961-62	60,222	1,33,214	82,941	30,541
1962-63	58,932	1,30,863	97,740	34,921
1963-64	60,966	2,14,153	1,27,954	40,183
1965-66		1,15,465	1,10,566	19,966
1966-67		1,74,310	78,466	26,721
1967-68	—	1,70,163	49,453	36,320

3. Barwani

The Municipality was constituted in 1911. The element of self-government was not introduced in it till recently and even in 1947-48 out of a total number of 19 councillors, 9 were nominated. Afterwards, this principle of nominated councillors was done away with and a committee, comprising solely elected members started functioning.

The Municipality derives its income mainly from octrio duty; rent and fees from market and slaughter houses; fines from cattle pound; entertainment tax; sale proceeds from municipal lands and regular grants-in-aid from the State Government.

Its expenditure consists mainly of Public Utility items like street-lighting, public health, roads and a fire fighting force. The Table below gives the details from 1956-57 onwards.

Expenditure on

Year	Public Health	Public works	Water Supply	Street Lighting
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1956-57	18,240	1,796	—	10,313
1957-58	25,361	8,786	—	8,889
1958-59	22,005	80,365	—	12,215
1959-60	24,734	47,846	—	13,524
1960-61	21,517	13,050	—	14,216
1961-62	928	17,756	1654	13,314
1962-63	736	39,944	552	15,109
1963-64	1,879	15,137	—	4,002
1965-66	1,65,836	12,162	—	13,192
1966-67	1,67,967	32,259	—	19,773
1967-68	1,23,311	7,746	—	7,772

4. Sendhwa

The Committee commenced its work in 1910 and was composed of 12 nominated members, including one from the Scheduled Castes. In 1931, first civic elections took place and eight members were elected, while the remaining four continued to be nominated. From 1942 election for the post of Vice—President was started, while in 1948 the Council had its first elected President. From 1954 onwards the ratio between elected and selected members has been 8:2. The council has four committees, *viz.*, Standing Committee, Public Works Committee, Public Health Committee and Executive Committee to perform its main functions. In December 1963, work regarding Sendhwa water supply Scheme has been started and the total cost of the scheme is Rs. 9.82 lakhs.

The sources of income of the Municipality are Octroi tax, Terminal Tax, House Tax and Land Lease in addition to the sale of compost manure. Other important sources of income are Cattle Registration fee, Bazar *Baitahak* and House Rent.

The Municipality has planned its expenditure in such a way that the major share goes for Public Utility Works, like Public Health, Water Works etc. The following Table shows the various important avenues of expenditure.—

Expenditure on

Year	Water Supply	Public Health	Public Works	Street Lighting
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1956-57	—	9,704	698	3,413
1957-58	—	1,36,294	4,461	2,116
1958-59	—	14,877	7,513	1,939
1959-60	—	17,648	4,766	2,004
1960-61	—	17,810	3,392	954
1961-62	—	33,276	3,053	1,091
1962-63	—	46,621	7,641	4,373
1963-64	9,221	39,510	7,686	12,803
1964-65	—	49,214	14,080	7,289
1965-66	—	50,034	17,798	7,657
1967-68		63,473	1,779	9,260

5. Maheshwar

The Municipal Council of Maheshwar was constituted in 1915. Till 1954 its constitution and functions were regulated by the various Municipal Acts prevailing in that state. From 1951 to 1953, that is immediately before the enactment of the M.P. Municipalities Act of 1954, it was composed of 14 members of whom 10 were elected and 3 nominated by the Government. The fourth *exofficio* member was the Assistant Medical Officer. After 1954 the total membership was reduced to 10, comprising eight elected and two selected Councillors, with provision for one reserved seat for the Scheduled Castes. There were 6 Sub-

Committee *viz.*, (1) Building (2) Encroachment, (3) Tax, (4) Development and Sanitation, (5) Light and Water and (6) Constitution. These were declared unconstitutional and dissolved in 1963. At present there exist no Sub-Committees.

In spite of a very scanty income the Municipal Committee launched upon a scheme of piped water-supply from the Narmada in 1956. The total expenditure incurred upon this project was about 1,70,000, including Rs. 10,000 as Government grant and an even amount as loan in 1958-59. After its completion 20,000 gallons of pure water are supplied per day to 300 private, and a considerable number of public taps.

The Table below shows the expenditure on different items during the years 1957-58 to 1967-68.

Year	Public Health	Public Works	Street Lighting	Water Supply
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1957-58	4,465	1,182	5,733	—
1958-59	4,124	3,442	7,488	13,396
1959-60	4,721	4,018	9,989	18,871
1960-61	6,919	6,657	8,488	49,780
1961-62	5,459	1,804	9,102	62,641
1962-63	7,463	2,196	8,910	40,375
1963-64	15,552	1,704	9,582	13,232
1965-66	6,336	2,016	5,300	—
1966-67	14,431	1,980	9,306	—
1967-68	14,746	1,416	9,175	—

6. Khetia

The municipal Committee of Khetia started functioning from 1912 according to the Act of 1911 and till 1948 it consisted of only 8 nominated members. The strength was raised to 11 for the period between 1948-53. Elective element was introduced for the first time in 1957, and the number was again reduced to 8, all elected. From 1958 to 1962 the total number of councillors was 10, out of whom 8 were elected and 2 selected including 2 reserved seats for the Scheduled Castes, and Scheduled Tribes.

At the time o its finception the municipality had a very meagre income of Rs. 4,000 but by Ist January 1964 it registered per year level of Rs. 77,000 in receipts derived mainly from Octroi, and Terminal taxes on passengers at the rate of half an anna per ticket.

Main items of expenditure of the Municipality are Street Lighting, Water Supply, Conservancy, Public Health, Public Works, Maintenance of the Municipal Library and grants to educational institutions.

The Municipal Committee of Khetia can be justly proud of its manificent rest-house, constructed at a cost of Rs. 30,000, out of its own fund. It has 11 furnished rooms, where the travellers can stay at nominal charge. The building is situated on the Ashoka road, which is itself a beauty spot of the town. The road was widened by evicting illegal encroachments and beautified by planting about 150 Ashoka trees on both sides, which have now grown to a good height.

It has constructed residential quarters for the staff, a children's park, a motor-stan, and public urinals and latrines.

The following Table shows the details regarding important items of expenditure from 1956-57 to 1967-68.

Year	Street Lighting	Water Supply	Public Health	Public Works
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1956-57	4,701		7,658	13,653
1957-58	4,831	396	9,870	33,674
1958-59	4,655	125	10,319	10,202
1959-60	4,909	144	13,277	28,084
1960-61	5,524	144	14,585	22,543
1961-22	6,360	33	19,021	5,412
1962-63	7,017	169	20,893	22,588
1963-64	9,484	N.A.	29,635	6,054
1965-66	20,466		47,866	50,838
1966-67	13,817		22,947	15,950
1967-68	6,824		40,057	1,629

7. Bhikangaon

The Municipality was established in 1929 and till the implementation of the Madhya Bharat Municipal Act of 1954, its affairs were conducted according to the provisions of the Indore District Municipalities Act of 1914. The Municipal Committee was composed, during this period, of eight elected and four nominated members. Subsequently there was a considerable reduction in number but the element of nomination was completely eliminated, that is, from 1954 onwards the Council was having five elected and one selected members.

Like other municipalities of the District the civic body derives its income mainly from Octroi duty, Terminal and wheel Tax, Cattle Registration, Bazar *Baithak*, Entertainment Tax and House and Land Tax.

The main items of expenditure of the body are Public Health and Sanitation, Public Works and Street Lighting as shown in table below.—

Year	Water Supply	Sanitation and Public Health	Public Works	Street Lighting
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1956-57	N.A.	1,425	N.A.	244
1957-58		1,932		4,600
1958-59		2,104		1,366
1959-60		2,490		2,769
1960-61		4,004		1,972
1961-62		2,546	27,490	5,451
1962-63		3,603	15,383	5,819
1963-64	3,687	12,088	19,167	6,609
1965-66		15,572	11,579	3,618
1966-67		19,260	13,171	3,618
1967-68		17,966	1,549	4,827

The proud possession of the municipality is its office building, constructed at a cost at Rs. 26,000. Another of its achievements is the *Bal Vinaya Mandir* that is, a preprimary school opened in 1962-63 with 49 students. Rs. 2331 were expended on this institution in the first year of its establishment.

8. Kasrawad

The municipal Committee, formed for the first time, under the Indore District Municipalities Act of 1914, was composed of nominated members and regional state officers. Elective element was introduced only after its integration with the Union of India, when provision was made for five elected and selected members.

Financial resources of this municipality, are rather restricted. As in other bodies, the Council derives its income mainly from House Tax, Entertainment Tax and Wheel Tax. In addition it is receiving grant-in-aid on per capita basis.

During the period 1914 to 1946 the Municipality had no appreciable funds to launch upon any specific constructive programme. From 1947 it started erecting public latrines and urinals and by 1962 it could complete a passengers' waiting hall, four quarters for its employees and a number of tarred roads. One road in the Harijan Colony has been laid with cement concrete. The town has no piped water-supply but on 6th September, 1961 the first electric connection was received.

The Table below shows the expenditure on selected items.

Year	Public Health	Public Works	Street Lighting	Cattle Pound
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1956-57	4,032	2,851	1,222	439
1957-58	4,032	12,788	1,774	509
1958-59	3,927	94,710	2,115	713
1959-60	4,873	19,152	2,822	964
1960-61	5,092	12.284	2,387	954
1961-62	10,575	8,080	6,715	N.A.
1962-63	18,050	4,265	5,620	N.A.
1963-64	15,789	46,705	7,010	N.A.
1965-66	16,704	14.000	2,829	—
1966-67	23,980	2,376	4,420	—
1967-68	21,759	1,017	6,101	—

9. Anjad

It is the oldest Municipality of the District, established in 1866. At this time, its jurisdiction extended over only eight square Km. with a population of 3,000 persons. Its strength consisted, till 1947, of four *ex-officio* members *viz.*, the Inspector of Police, the Assistant Medical Officer, the Overseer, P.W.D. and the *Kamavisdar* who acted as the President. In 1948 the civic area was divided into 5 double-members constituencies and the first municipal election took place. No seat was reserved for the Scheduled Castes, in this first elective Council, but provision was made for this reservation from 1955 onwards.

The octroi duty, an important source of income, was imposed by the body in 1953-54, when the income from this source registered a small figure of Rs. 342. After 5 years that is in 1958-59, the Municipality collected from the same source Rs. 31,822. Terminal Tax, House Tax, Wheel Tax, and Entertainment duty fetched in the same year (1958-59) Rs. 77,565, Rs. 22,803 Rs. 337 and Rs.11,686, respectively. to boost up the total receipt to Rs. 89,495 from Rs. 27,563 in 1953-54.

The committee spent a major proportion of its expenditure on welfare items, It constructed 7,000 feet long surface drains and brought tractor, trolly and tanker for sanitary disposal of refuse substance.

Expenditure on

Year	Public Health	Street Lighting	Public Work
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1956-57	16,501	6,143	14,097
1957-58	21,545	8,280	47,045
1958-59	19,567	6,948	4,661

Year	Public Health	Street Lighting	Public Works
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1959-60	21,259	5,225	20,227
1960-61	30,130	8,716	42,495
1961-62	8,281	11,170	6,136
1962-63	8,655	11,363	9,065
1963-64	25,538	11,956	3,196
1965-66	52,962	4,189	2,307
1966-67	55,545	7,304	1,748
1967-68	52,127	9,055	9,490

10. Mandleshwar

Under the Indore District Municipalities Act of 1914, the Municipality was established in the same year and then served about 1,919 persons, inhabiting an area of 0.73 Sq. Km. The committee then consisted of elected and nominated members with the Regional State Officer as its *ex-officio* President. Before the enactment of the M. B. Municipalities Act of 1954 there were two selected, six elcteed and a similar number of nominated councillors, with no reservation for Scheduled Castes members. The President and Vice-Presidents were elected for the first time after the implementation of the Act of 1954, and were given scheduled powers to manage the affairs of the municipality without any interference.

Like all other neighbouring municipalities main sources of income of this civic body are House-tax, Octroi, Terminal Tax, bazar *baithak*, Toll tax, Cattle Registration fee, Wheel tax, and loan and grants from the State Government. Upto 1960-61 the amount of general and specific purpose grants and loans were Rs. 45,846, Rs. 15,250 and Rs. 78,745 respectively.

It has spent its income in public welfare items. Some of its recent outstanding achievements are its market building and a waiting hall at a cost of Rs. 37,000 and a clock tower with four clocks, on which Rs. 10,000 were spent. Apart from it, the council has repaired and improved a good number of roads and constructed surface drains, etc. A water Works project is under construction and till its completion water is being obtained from the Narmada and local wells.

Year	Public Health	Public Works	Street Lighting
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1956-57	6,439	998	2,317
1957-58	7,633	1,622	3,564
1958-59	7,148	9,933	4,311
1959-60	8,504	6,753	4,711
1960-61	7,708	3,701	5,382

1961-62	6,127	4,536	5,644
1962-63	9,135	6,075	6,472
1963-64	9,135	6,075	6,752
1965-66	14,890	1,342	3,831
1966-67	15 268	1,000	6,472
1967-68	21,169	3,960	6,681

11. Sanawad

This municipality was established round about the year 1893, but no authentic records are available upto the year 1928. During the period 1928-44 it was composed of 6 elected and six nominated Councillors. In 1944 the number of elected members was raised to 11. This set up continued till 1958 when the number of elected members was reduced by three, element of nomination was completely eliminated, and provision was made for two selected members one for Scheduled Castes and one for women.

The sources of the committee are mainly Octroi, House Tax, Toll tax, Water tax, and Government grants. In 1952 the total municipal income was Rs. 70,000, including Rs. 32,975 from tax receipts which rose to Rs. 4,02,308 in 1959-60.

The Committee utilised this fund for conservancy, street Lighting, Water Supply and other public welfare items.

The Municipality has its own Water Works since 1928 which supplies about 25,000 gallons of drinking water per day. Other civic amenities, which the committee has provided, are five public latrines, seven urinals, one Fire Brigade unit, one deep-surface drain for out-letting sewage, and 285 street-lights. Recently 14 quarters for municipal employees and one colony for the scavengers have been constructed.

Expenditure on

Year	Public Health	Public Works	Water Supply	Street Lighting
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1956-57	10,883	536	—	7,081
1957-58	14,011	3,563	—	7,377
1958 59	14,836	1,917	—	9,408
1959-60	15,568	2,15,261	—	8,870
1960-61	17,019	61,589	—	11,215
1961-62	18,888	59,143	42,188	12,128
1962-63	19,124	66,035	41,608	13,515
1963-64	62,936	41,989	24,648	16,194
1965-66	73,821	13,899	—	8,255
1966-67	83,781	1,893	—	12,972
1967-68	88,156	2,351	—	13,929

12. Rajpur

The Municipality was established in 1905 when there was no specific Municipal Act in Barwani State. Afterwards it was brought under the regulations of the Municipal Act of 1911 and the *Qanoon* Barwani of 1920. Like all other Municipalities of this State this civic body too was completely under State Control and supervision at the time of its inception, the elective element being introduced at a much later stage.

Before the State's integration to the Union of India, Rajpur Municipality was classed into third category, and according to the Act of 1961 it was further down-graded into the fourth class. Nevertheless it is recording a steady progress with regard to financial resources. The total income which was only Rs. 6,000 at the time of its formation shot up to Rs. 7,000 on 1959-60. There is no underground drainage system within the Municipal area.

With this handsome financial assistance the municipal council was able to launch upon some of their development schemes. A market building, three public latrines and five urinals have already been completed. In 1959-60 grants-in-aid and loan amounting to Rs. 15,000 and Rs. 8,000, respectively, were received from the Government for construction of gutters, pavements and roads.

Expenditure on

Year	Public Health	Public Works	Street Lighting
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1956-57	6,871	748	3,534
1957-58	6,540	1,219	4,552
1958-59	34,521	1,474	6,292
1959-60	8,530	6,644	5,902
1960-61	15,351	48,294	6,497
1961-62	16534	5,498	8,983
1962-63	17,683	29,756	7,521
1963-64	24,630	5,771	8,423
1965-66	3,491	5,415	5,449
1966-67	5,068	5,024	6,225
1967-68	2,100	6,780	10,000

PANCHAYATS

The rural units of the Local Self-Government are the *Gram*, *Nyaya*, *Kendra* and *Mandal* Panchayats. The method of administering justice through a body of village elders is as ancient as the early Vedic age, though probibly these rural institutions did not cover the entire of the village community. And the

verdict of the five elders used to carry as much sanctity and sanction as the award of the modern courts of justice.

In modern period initiative was taken by the Holkar State, and *Gaonthi* Panchayats, composed of the village *Patel*, *Patwari* and three tenants of the village paying the largest revenue to the State Exchequer, were established in 1909 in almost all villages of the State. The sole function of these units was to look after local sanitation and village waste lands. From these *Gaonthi* Panchayats emerged the village Panchayats with their wide responsiblities and power in 1920. After the Holkar State Panchayat Act was passed, regular Panchayats were established in villages or groups of villages with a minimum population of 500 persons. The Act was amended in 1928, according to which Panchayat could be formed in any village, without regard to the limit of its population. Ordinarily each unit consisted of not less than 6 and not more than 15 panchas, each representing 75 inhabitants. The panchas were both elected on adult franchise basis and nominated by the *Amin* and the *Subah* but the elected members exceeded the nominated by two or three. The Sarpancha was appointed from amongest the panchas after consulting local opinion, for a term of five years. They were entrusted with certain obligatory duties, and, as far as the circle permitted, also with, some optional functions.

In addition, considerable, judicial powers, of the category of primary, secondary and advance Panchayats were conferred upon them to hear and decide civil cases involving amounts upto Rs. 25/- and criminal cases under the Indian Penal Code and Cattle Trespass Act No legal practitioners were allowed to plead before the Panchayats and no appeal was also permissible. In 1941 certain amendments were made to the old Panchayat Act, providing for women suffrage, compulsory taxation, preferring appeals and revision application. This state of affairs continued in the Holkar State till the creation of this new district in 1948.

At that time, no Panchayat of any category was functioning in Barwani.

After the formation of the Madhya Bharat, the Madhya Bharat Panchayat Act of 1949 (Samvat 2006) was passed and brought into effect in January 1952. Under this Act an overall uniformity was achieved in the existing system, the units of organization were given wider powers and entrusted with well defined functions. In the light of experience gained afterwards, some minor amendments were made to this original Act in 1953, 1954. and 1955

According to the provision of this Act of 1949 a three tier structure of the *Panchayati* organization was brought into effect in the whole of Madhya Bharat. Of these three grades the lowest was the Gram Panchayat, formed in every village or group of villages having at least an aggregate population of 1000. A Kendra Panchayat was established over a convenient group of Gram Panchayats and the Mandal Panchayat, the highest in the ladder, was constituted over a group of

Kendra Panchayat area roughly coincided with the Patwari halka, the Kendra Panchayat's with a National Extention Service Block, while the Mandal Panchayat was co-terminus with the whole district.

In addition to these executive bodies provision was made for the establishment of Nyaya Panchayats to dispose of petty rural suits. 346 Gram Panchayats, 17 Kendra, one Mandal and 22 Nyaya Panchayats functioned in this district from 1951-52 to 1955-56. After the second election in 1956 the number changed as follows:-344 Gram Panchayats, 11 kendra, one Mandal and 28 Nyaya Panchayats. With the introduction of Conciliation Boards the number of *Nyaya* Panchayats was reduced again to 18 from 1957 on wards. Of these local bodies there were 46 Gram Panchayats in Barwaha covering a population of 68,603 people. The table below shows the number of Gram Panchayats population. Excepting Khargone, Rajpur and Sendhwa which had two *Kendra* Panchayats each, there was only one such body in each of the three remaining tahsils. Khargone had four Nyaya Panchayats, and in all other tahsils only two were established.

Tahsil	No. of Gram Panchayats	Population
Barwani	30	68,935
Bhikangaon	47	65,563
Kasrawad	38	59,816
Khargone	64	1,31,998
Maheshwar	25	47,388
Rajpur	45	1,01,498
Sendhwa	48	1,13,721

The number of Panchas of each Gram Panchayat was fixed by the Government between 5 and 15 according to the proportion of its population, each member representing 200 persons. Similarly it was decided that the number of *Kendra* panchas should not be less than the number of Gram Panchayats under its supervision, because, two Sarpanchas of all these village units constituted the entire council of the Kendra body. In no case it was less than 11. The Mandal Panchayat was similarly composed of sarpanchas of all Kendra Panchayats of the district. In addition to these each village panchayat had one coopted woman panch; in Kendra and Mandal units seats were reserved also for one Scheduled Caste member and one from the co-operative societies. In the Gram Panchayats, however, Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes were represented in proportion to their strength in the total number of voters.

The elections of Gram Panchayats were held triennially on the basis of joint electorate system. The term of the panchayat is co-extensive with the office of the Sarpanchas, and Upsarpanchas, who were elected by the panchas from among

themselves just after their own election. Election in the Kendra and Mandal Panchayats followed immediately afterwards. The major functions of all the Panchayats were divided into two categories-obligatory and voluntary. Obligatory functions of each Gram Panchayat comprised collection of taxes and fees; Public Works and Public Health activities like general conservancy, construction, maintenance and improvement of village roads, provision for pure drinking water, supervision of burial or cremation ground, eviction of encreaohment; opening and maintenance of public markets; prevention of fire and epidemics and management of its moveable and imoveable properties. Discretionary functions, varying according to each panchayats financial resources, included street-lighting; planting of trees on public roads; construction and maintenance of *Dharamsalas* and inn for travellers; establishment and upkeep of village libraries, gymnasiums, and slaughter houses; construction of public latrines; preparation of compost manure and similar other work.

The main duty of Kendra Panchayat was to supervise and co-ordinate the activities of the Gram panchayats under its jurisdiction, while the Mandal Panchayat exercised the same supervisory control over all the Kendra panchayats. Apart from this, both the Kendra and Mandal Panchayats were assigned a few obligatory and discretionary duties.

The elaborate functions-imposed on each body quite a heavy expenditure for which provision was made in the Act. All *Gram, Kendra* and *Mandal* Panchayats were authorised to open their own fund, where all taxes, fees and fines collected by the panchayats, grants and loans from the State Government, and other amount, transferred to them under court's order were accumulated. Taxes, which the panchayats were empowered to impose in their respective jurisdictions were cess on land revenue at the rate of six pies per rupee; house tax from persons not paying the cess, tax on pack animals; market duty; fees from panchayat inn, rest-house and slaughter house; water tax; conservancy fees; dog and cattle registration fees; wheel tax; entertainment duty, etc. another important source of income was matching grants-in-aid from the Government. The total income from land was equally divided among Gram, *Kendra* and *Madal* Panchayats. It is interesting to note that with the constitution of the Mandal the District Rural Uplift Committee was dissolved and its fund was transferred to the newbody. The budget of the Gram Panchayat was prepared by the Committee, passed by the electors, and then sent to the Kendra Panchayat, which sent it to the Director of Panchayats for approval. Similarly, the budget of the Kendra panchayat was passed in a meeting of the Sarpanchas of the local Gram Panchayats and sent to the Government authority for sanction through the Mandal Panchayat; whose own budget,· is than requiring the similar approval. Village school teachers were appointed part time Secretaries of the *Gram* Panchayats. Gram Sevaks, trained at Agar Vidyalaya, were employed in similar posts in Kendra Panchayats, while the Block Development Officer acted as the Secretary of the Mandal Panchayat. The Table at the end of the chapter gives the income and expenditure of Gram Panchayats from 1955-56 to 1963-64.

Nyaya Panchayat

To stop the ruinous tendency of litigation among rural population the Government established 22 Nyaya Panchayats in the District in 1952. Their jurisdiction was larger than those of the Gram Panchayats but much smaller than the Kandra Panchayats'. Every such Panchayat consisted of five to eleven members all of whom were elected by the Gram Panchayat Council.

Panchayati Raj

The Directive Principles of State Policy contained in Article 40 of the Indian Constitution, laid down that "the State shall take steps to organize village Panchayats and endow them with such powers and authority as may be necessary to enable them to function as units of self-government. After the observation of the Balwantrai Mehta Commission of 1957 on democratic diffussion of the centripetal power, all states were encouraged by the National Development Council and Central Council of Local Self-Government, to reconstitute their existing panchayats in such a way that these administrative institutions could form the base, on which the entire community Development Programme would rest. They were expected to evolve themselves into vIllage republics, enjoying considerable autonomy: Certain basic principles, emphasised by the Government were:—

(a) It should be a three-tier structure the local bodies from the village to the District being organically linked up and

(b) All Development programmes at these levels should be channelled through these bodies.

Broadly accepting these features the Madhya Pradesh Panchayat Act VII, comprising 392 sections, was passed in 1962. It will be implemented in all the districts of Madhya Pradesh after the first Panchayati Raj election. With it the Madhya Bharat Panchayat Act of 1949 would stand repealed in all the Districts of this regional unit.

Under this new Act the Gram Sabha, consisting of all adults of the village, has been recognized as a statutory body, which should meet at least twice a year to consider programme of work and the panchayat budget. Members of the Gram Panchayats are to be elected by the Gram Sabha-10 members for a population of a thousand, and one extra member for each additional 250 persons. Provisions have been made to reserve seats for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, two Co-opted women members and a representative of the co-operative society. The Janapada Panchayat, to be constituted at the Block level, shall, consist of, in addition to the elected panchas, one member from the Co-operative Marketing Society; one from each municipal body; two women, one from Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and all local M.L.AS. The Zila Parishad will include Sarpanchas of all Janapada Panchayats; one M.P. and 8 M.L.-As., from the District; and the District officers, representing Public Health, Education, Agriculture and other development Department; in addition to one

Co-optde Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe member and one pancha representing the Co-operative Society. The official members have no right to vote. Every Gram Panchayat with an annual income of Rs. 5000/- has been empowered to have a fulltime secretary, and the Janapada Panchayat to have a Chief Executive Officer, while the Zila Panchayat shall have the District Panchayat Officer or another gazetted officer for this purpose.

Functions assigned to the Gram Panchayats are promotion of agriculture, co-operation, cottage industries, sanitation, conservancy, minor irrigation works, water supply, and organizing collective-farming and credit societies. The Janapada Panchayats are to execute C.D. programme in addition to those duties, formarly performed by the Kendra Panchayat of the District. The Zila Panchayats main duty is to supervise and guide the Gram Panchayats, co-ordinate their activities, and distributed government funds among Janapada Panchayats. Gram panchayats can constitute seven functional sub-committees, and Janapada Panchayat seven standing committee, so that they can perform their multifarious duties in an efficient way.

As regards financial resources no major amendment has been made in the Gram Panchayat fund but provision has been made to allot sufficient cash to the Janapada Panchayat fund for Community Development Programme. The Zila Panchayat shall get forest revenue, contribution from the State Government and other bodies, and share from land revenue. The budget of the Gram Panchayat is to be approved by the Janapada Panchayat, whose budget in turn is to be sent for approval to the Zila Panchayat. The Zila Panchayat is authorised to sanction its own budget.

Necessary arrangement have been made to orient both the officials and non-officials, who will work as team at different levels and to equip them with adequate knowledge and skill before this epoch-making change is brought about.

The following Table shows Income and Expenditure of Village Panchayats.

Year	Income	Expenditure
1955-56	56,209	53,769
1956-57	28,994	19,812
1957-58	49,658	67,370
1958-59	49,803	48,000
1959-60	54,715	56,595
1960-61	80,335	1,14,094
1961-62	54,212	34,454
1962-63	56,112	45,563
1963-64	40,157	36,500

CHAPTER XV

EDUCATION AND CULTURE

The contemporary or later historical works do not provide evidence about the method of primary or higher education in this tract, prior to Muslim conquest. It appears 'likely, that the familiar institution of the village school-master, plying his occupation amidst humble surroundings, and receiving his modest pay from the contribution of the villagers, was at work during these centuries. Mass education was perhaps provided by the traditional institution, namely, the public recitation of the Epics, the *Puranas* and other religious works'. The *Smrities* prescribed for the students of upper classes to receive their higher education from the Brahmin teacher.[1] However, when we consider general level of culture mirrored in the contemporary literature, when Kalachuris held sway over the territory with Mahishmati the present Maheshwar as capital, we find the reference to "Murari, son of Vardhamana of *Maudgalya Gotra.*" It appears that he belonged to the end of the eighth Century, but some authors place him sometimes "between A. D. 1050 and 1135, on the strength of the fact that no rhetorician earlier than Mankha refers to him. But Ratnakara (middle of the ninth Century) makes a clear reference to him in his *Harvijaya* ....the author of *Prasannaraghava* also seems to have imitated him....From the reference to Mahishmati as 'Agra-mahishi', in Act VII of his play *Konow,* infers that Murari was a protege of a Kalachuri prince at Mahishmati. This suggestion, if accepted, would place his date prior to the middle of the eighth Century A. D., when Mahishmati ceased to be the capital of Kalachuries. His work, the *Anargha-raghava,* is a play in seven acts depicting the early life of Rama upto his return from the forest, and bears ample testimony to the linguistic abilities of its author."[2]

A reference to another famous Sanskrit scholar-philosopher of the eighth Century A. D., associated with Mahishmati seems pertinent here. H. D. Sankalia in '*The Excavations at Maheshwar and Navdatoli*' noted that: "The most important part of Maheshwar is citadel area. The eastern part of this fort area is called 'Mandalkho' on account of its association with Mandana Misra, famous Sanskrit scholar and philosopher of 8th Century A. D."[3] An interesting reference about him says that "Sankara gained many disciples, sometimes directly by persuasion and sometimes indirectly by defeating rivals in debate. One of the more famous of these disciples was Mandana Misra, a staunch follower of *Purva*

1. The Struggle for Empire, pp. 508-509.
2. The Age of Imperial Kanauj, pp. 178-79.
3. H. D. Sankalia, Excavation at Maheshwar and Navdatoli, 1952-53, p. 17.

Mimamsa. Being defeated in the debate at whichh is wife presided as judge, he took to the monastic life, assumed the new name of Suresvara, and wrote on *Vedanta* on the same lines as Sankara. How far, the many anecdotes current about Sankara may be regarded as historical, it is of course difficult to say."[1] The scholars hold different views regarding the identity of Suresvara, the author of the famous *Varttika* and the *Naishkarm-yasiddhi*, and Mandana Misra.

The period in between till the annals of authentic history of educational system starts in the middle of the 19th Century, offers a scope for mere surmise or conjecture. The banks of the holy Narmada which passes through the District, sheltering learned sages, with their *ashrams* filled with the incensed smoke and Vedic chants, may have provided rich literary traditions to the region. The later religious pedagogues kept the flame of education burning, down to the era of education as we understand it now. Education in three 'R's, and some book-keeping or religious instructions answering to local needs used to be taught by these pedagogues in the indigenous vernacular schools run by them.

Western Education

The present District of West Nimar, which is comprised the whole of the erstwhile Holkar's Nimar, the Barwani State, and some portions of Dhar and Dewas States, took shape after the integration of Princely States into Madhya-Bharat Union, in 1948. Hence, the educational history of this District is necessarily circumscribed by the policies of the then rulers in their respective States. After the reorganisation of States in November 1956, the District emerged as it existed under the erstwhile Madhya Bharat Union.

The first step towards western education in the region was taken by the then Holkar State, when in 1841 a school was opened at Indore. Till after the Great Uprising, the education largely remained restricted to Indore, but thereafter it started spreading in other districts of the State also In West Nimar the beginning came about in 1863, when a school was started in the present Barwani Tahsil, which at that time was the State capital of Barwani. About four years later in 1867, Khargone and Maheshwar tahsils of the erstwhile Holkar State also witnessed the establishment of upper-primary, Anglo-Marathi classes, and Mandleshwar got a Hindi school then. In 1868, apart from mixed schools, Barwaha also received a girls' school. The Victoria High School, Barwani, which was affiliated to Calcutta University in the year 1898 (later on to Allahabad), was the only high school operating in the District with the strength of 40 students.

A Manual of Hindi Geography and History of India, and a book on Arithmetic were prepared for Hindi schools in the then Holkar State by Wasudeo Ballar Muley. To encourage the private schools, grants-in-aid were also sanctioned by the State.

1. The Age of Imperial Kanauj, pp. 358-59.

The number of primary schools in the Barwani tract was 13 in 1881, attended by 617 students, which went up to 15 schools and 444 students in 1886-87. In 1900-01, the number of schools increased to 21, including one high school, 15 primary and 5 girls' schools with 1,672 students. The expenditure went up from Rs. 4,091 in 1881-82 to Rs. 7,540 in 1900-01. School-fee for the first time was introduced in Indore in 1898-99, with not much adverse effect on the number of student attending the schools. In Barwani State, the high school fee was also introduced in the same year but at primary stage education was still free.

Organisation of the Education Department

As has already been stated that the educational progress of the respective merging tracts of the Districts was guided by the policies of the then rulers of the tract, the organisational set-up for the control and supervision of educational activities, wholly managed by the State machinery, also varied in the respective tracts.

In the erstwhile Indore State it was in 1861 that positive steps were taken to formulate the Board of Education for the effective supervision of education in the State. But soon after in 1867, the Board was replaced with the Superintendent of State Education, and Holkar's Nimar came under one of the two Divisional Inspectors. In the erstwhile Dhar State it was much later, *i. e.*, in 1929 that we witness the establishment of such a Board of Education. The Department of Education was under the overall control of '*Diwan*' who was also the Director of Education. The supervision of 'Thikri Circle' schools was in the charge of Sub-Inspector, Nimar Division of the Dhar State. In the Barwani tract, the Inspector and Deputy Inspectors supervised the education in the State. While the Inspector of Schools was incharge of the education in the State, the Deputy Inspectors supervised village schools. The post of Superintendent of State Education was created in the 'twenties of the present Century. In 1898-99, the Unitary School System was adopted in Indore and Hindi, Persian and Urdu schools were placed under one Inspector, and Marathi, Anglo-Marathi and Sanskrit under the other. But later in 1901-02, an independent officer was appointed for all Sanskrit schools of the State. Till the year 1911, this system of control and supervision of State education *vis-a-vis* District education worked well. Owing to rapid expansion of educational obligations of the State, the education in Holkars' Nimar continued to be influenced by the changes made from time to time for effective supervision and control of education at the State level in the ensuing decades.

After the introduction of compulsory education in Indore in 1925, a thorough revision of the Inspectorate staff was undertaken. The Holkar's Nimar came under the newly created Southern Division under the charge of an Inspector enjoying large powers, with headquarters at Indore. He was assisted by one Deputy Inspector and two Sub-Deputy Inspectors in inspection and supervision of rural community education. This was carried through

constructive and propaganda work with the help of teachers and students. The girls' schools of Holkars' Nimar were also placed under this officer. Each Sub-Inspector had 25 schools under his charge while each Deputy Inspector supervised 40 schools, with their headquarters at the circle levels.

After the separation of girls' branch from that of boys' in the year 1930, it was placed under a separate Assistant Director, Women's Branch. This set-up worked till 1945 when one Inspectress of girls' schools was also appointed. The head quarters of, Inspector Southern Division was also shifted to Khargone in 1943.

After the integration of Princely States and emergence of Madhya Bharat Union in 1948, West Nimar District in the present shape came under the jurisdiction of Southern Division with headquarters at Indore under the control of a Deputy Director of Education. He was assisted by an Inspector in charge of West Nimar District and a number of Deputy Inspectors and Assistant Inspectors of Schools. The girls' education in the region, including this District, was controlled by the Regional Inspectress of Schools, assisted by an Assistant Inspectress, who worked directly under the guidance of the Director of Education at Gwalior.

The organisation set-up remained much the same in the following years, till the formation of the new State of Madhya Pradesh in 1956. In December 1961, the designation of the Divisional authority was brought in conformity with the rest of the State, and was changed to Divisional Superintendent of Education, Indore Division, who controls both boys' as well as girls' education, and inspects the higher secondary schools in the Division. A lady officer was attached to Divisional Superintendent of Education to look after the work of girls' schools in the Division, including West Nimar. He is assisted by the District Education Officer, redesignated as such in December, 1961. For the efficient supervision and inspection of all schools in primary and upto middle stage, the District Educational Officer is responsible. For the purpose, the District has been divided into ranges, each having on an average 50 to 70 schools under the charge of an Assistant Inspector of Schools. The number of Assistant Inspector of Schools as on the 31 March, 1964 was 27.

LITERACY AND EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS

According to 1901 Census the general literacy in West Nimar was as low as 2.9 per cent. However, it was higher among the males, i. e., 5.6 per cent while among the females it was 0.04 per cent only. Though educational awakening in Indore District dawned much earlier, and grew at a faster pace (general literacy being 7.36 per cent), West Nimar is still in the early stages in this respect.

In the erstwhile Barwani tract, the literacy in 1901 was only 2 per cent, which advanced by further one per cent in 1911. The general dearth of educational facilities was wholly responsible for it. However, the lack of enthusiasm

for education of their wards on the part of parents was also perhaps there. But the first decade of the present Century served as the spring-board, and the number of literates increased by about three-folds during 1901-11. The general level of literacy in 1921 stood at 4.0 per cent of the Nimar's population. Twenty years' period that followed witnessed the rapid expansion of educational facilities and increased enthusiasm for education among the District populace. Consequently, by 1941 the literate population almost trebled itself over that of 1921. The period, however, was more remarkable for growth in female literacy. During this period the female literates moved by four-folds over those of 1921. The same was very well reflected in the general literacy percentage, which moved from 4.0 per cent in 1921 to 8.3 per cent in 1941. The male literacy doubled by 1941 recording 14.5 per cent, and females to 1.9 per cent against 0.66 per cent in 1921.

The succeeding 20 years were more characterised with rapid expansion, both in respect of provision of educational facilities and turn-over. Comprehensive schemes of educational development and adult literacy were formulated, which began to bear fruit later when we see it mirrored in the large increase of literates in the District population. The integration of States and formation of Madhya Bharat Union in 1948, and consequent adjustments in the boundaries of West Nimar District were also responsible for the increase in the literacy percentage. The general literacy in 1951 stood at 10.2 per cent, while male and female literacy was 17.2 per cent and 2.9 per cent, respectively. The advent of literacy was more marked and significant during the last decade (1951-61) which coverd the two Five Year Plans. The literates in 1961 numbered 151,802. The general literacy worked out as 15.3 per cent of the population. The urban literacy was, however, 38.82 per cent while rural literacy was 11.36 per cent in 1961.

The growth of literacy in West Nimar during the last 60 years, since 1901, is given in the following Table.—

Census Year	Literate Population			Percentage literacy		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Femles
1901	3,956	3,930	26	2.9	5.6	0.04
1911	12,589	12,146	443	3.6	6.8	0.24
1921	15,611	14,351	1,260	4.0	7.2	0.66
1931	23,483	21,948	1,535	5.0	9.2	0.68
1941	43,757	38,743	5,014	8.3	14.5	1.9
1951	77,209	66,202	11,007	10.2	17.2	2.9
1961	1,51,802	1,23,837	27,965	15.3	24.5	5.8

Literate in the Census term is a person who can read and write a simple (printed or manuscript) letter. Of the 77,209 literates having educational proficiency up to different standards in 1951, about 64.2 per cent inhabited rural tract, and the rest 35.8 per cent urban tract of the District. Similarly, the literacy by educational standard among the Backward Classes was as low as 2.2 per cent of the total population in the District, and nearly 8.8 per cent of the total Backward Class population.

The literacy by educational standard, according to 1961 Census is given in the following Table .—

Educational Standard	Literates			Rural	Urban	Scheduled Castes and Tribes	
	Persons	Males	Females			Males	Females
Literates (without educational standards)	1,31,026	1,05,897	25,129	88,886	42.140	17,720	1,132
Primary and Junior basic	15,346	12,973	2,373	6,520	8,826	927	46
Matriculate and above	5,430	4,967	463	1,410	4,020	92	3
Technical diploma not equal to degree	84	80	4	—	84	—	—
Non-technical diploma not equal to degree	8	6	2	—	8	—	—
University degree or post-graduate degree other than technical degree	506	468	38	—	506	—	—
Technical degree or diploma equal to degree or post-graduate degree	146	135	11	—	146	—	—
Engineering	8	8	—	—	—	—	—
Agriculture	15	15	—	—	—	—	—
Veterinary or Dairying	5	5	—	—	—	—	—
Teaching	79	72	7	—	—	—	—
Medicine	33	29	4	—	—	—	—
Others	6	6	—	—	—	—	—

Spread of Education among Women

It was not until 1867 that we find reference to some positive steps taken in the direction of female education in the District. A girls' school at Mandleshwar existed before 1867. Perhaps the school was received in legacy from the British, alongwith the tract made over to Holkar in exchange for his territory in the Deccan. The advent of western education, however, dates back to 1863, as has already been mentioned, and thereafter mixed schools were started in the District. There was no bar on co-education but the inherent orthodoxy on the part of parents, and also the public opinion, was responsible for neglecting girls' education. In the Barwani tract, there existed two girls' schools is 1891-92 attended by 36 girl students The number of schools went up to five in 1902-03, attended by 212 girls in this tract. With the turn of the century, the girls' education began to receive increased attention and steps were taken to encourage the girls' education through the grant of special scholarships, etc. In 1910-11, owing to the pressing demand for girls' education from the people in Thikri Circle of the Dhar State—since merged with the West Nimar District—one more school was opened at Thikri. In 1914-15 the number of girls on the rolls of the school was 20 against 28 in the previous year. They were instructed in reading, writing and arithmetic. Knitting, also formed a part of the domestic teaching. In the Barwani tract there were three girls' schools in 1911-12, located at Barwani, Anjad and Rajpur *Parganas*. To make the teaching of arithmetic interesting in the State schools (Dhar), coins were distributed for use. In the Barwani tract the number of girls' schools declined from five in 1902-03 to three in 1905-06, attended by 164 girls. Till the year 1918-19 no further schools were added, and the average attendance of girls ranged between 142 to 164 in these schools. The epidemic of influenza, however, further depressed the average attendance to 139 in 1917-18, and to 125 in 1918-19 in this tract of the present District. Gradually, the number of institutions for girls in this tract increased to seven, attended by 753 students in 1944-45, against 808 in 1942-43.

Owing to the rapid expansion of girls' education, effective and better control and supervision became imperative. As a consequence, as stated earlier, the girls' school branch in Holkar's Nimar tract was separated from that of boys' under a separate officer, and in 1930 a lady Assistant Director of Women's branch was appointed. The number of schools for girls in 1942 in this tract was 14 which increased to 16 in 1945, of which two were middle schools.

The progress of girls' education continued unabated, and in 1947, *i. e.*, prior to the formation of the Madhya Bharat Union, there were 26 primary girls' school, with 2,049 students, and four girls' middle schools in the Holkar's Nimar District.

Prior to launching of the First Five Year Plan in 1951-52, the number of schools in the primary stage remained stationary, although the number of students increased to 2,910. In four girls' middle schools in 1951, the number of girl-

students was 57. The number of girls' schools in primary stage registered a great leap forward during the First Plan period, and there were 78 primary schools in 1956, attended by 3,233 girls. The middle school at Barwani was also raised to a high school. Though there was no increase in primary schools for girls during the Second Plan period, the number of girls' middle schools increased from five in 1956 to seven in 1961, with 159 girls on the rolls. The girls' education during the Third Five Year plan received further encouragement, and by 1963-64 the number of primary schools increased to 82 with 11,531 girls on the rolls, middle schools to 11 with 4,357 students, and six higher secondary schools with 1,651 students on the rolls. In 1963-64 liberal scholarships were awarded to 65 girls of primary, 70 of middle, 89 of higher secondary schools and 7 girls of collegiate level (inclusive of Scheduled Castes).

Spread of Education among Backward Classes and Tribes

According to 1961 Census the population of Backward Classes and Tribes in the District was 5,06,195 which constituted about 51 per cent of the District population. Of these, 1,05,852 were Scheduled Castes and 4,00,343 Scheduled Tribes. The predominant among the tribes were Bhils and Bhilalas. Majority of these were found in the rural areas of Rajpur, Sendhwa, Khargone, Bhikangaon and Barwani *Parganas* of the District.

With the beginning of this Century, the then Holkar and Dhar States took positive steps for the encouragement of education among these sections of the State's subject. The Bhils and Bhilalas pressed up their demand for the opening of schools as early as 1908-09 in the Thikri Circle of Dhar State. In the Nimar tract, Tukoji Rao III, on the assumption of power appointed an educational committee in 1912 which recommended the encouragement of education among the Backward Classes by award of scholarships. In 1913 'it was noted that as far as middle-class of backward communities is concerned, they are becoming alive to the need of education, and our schools contain a fairly large percentage of children of such classes.' [1]

In the then Barwani and Dhar States, special facilities to the students of Harijan and other Backward Classes were also provided. The primary education was made free and books, slates, etc., were supplied free to these students. The number of students of these sections in the Barwani State schools in 1903-04 was 153 which increased to 891 (including cultivators) in 1905-06 and to 1,138 in 1911-12.

The Holkar State in 1942 appointed a committee to enquire into the extreme poverty of the tribes, *viz.*, Bhils, Bhilalas and Barelas. Consequently by 1944, free education was imparted to Harijans in the State's primary, middle and secondary schools, and scholarship was granted liberally.

With the formation of Madhya Bharat Union in 1948, vigorous steps were taken by the Government in the matter. All Harijan and Adivasi

1. Holkar State Administration Report, 1913, p. 48.

students of the District were granted free-ship in all educational institutions for a poriod of five years. For carrying out the educational and other policies for their uplift, a separate department at the State level was also created, which was integrated in the year 1950 with the Development Department. In the new set-up, the Backward Class Officer was to be *ex-officio* Deputy Development Commissioner for four Scheduled Districts of Nimar, Jhabua, Dhar and Ratlam. At Nimar, the District Organiser assisted in the welfare activities of the Harijans and Adivasis. A sum of Rs. 1,800 was paid to the 'Gram Sewa Kuteer', Sendhwa, for running private schools for Adivasis. The Government maintained Adivasi Boarding House at Palsud in this District. Two new boarding-houses were also opened in 1952-53 at Sendhwa and Barwani. In 1953-54, there were 16 students in Sendhwa, 20 in Palsud and 19 in Barwani Boarding-Houses. Apart from this, in 1961-62, two Harijan Chhattrawas were also functioning at Khargone and Mandleshwar (private), with an accommodation for 20 students. Under the First Five Year Plan, two Adivasi Adult Education Centres in each of the six tahsils of the Scheduled Area were organised in the District in 1953-54. The Adult Centres for Harijans were also organised under the name of 'Jeewan Vikas Kendra'. Each such centre (*Kendra*) was entrusted to the care of one Harijan Sewak, covering 20 to 30 villages. Government also sanctioned Rs. 4,000 to Nimar Zila Harijan Mandal, Mandleshwar, for the boarding-house. In 1953-54, a *Balwadi* was opened for Harijan and Adivasi girls in this District. In the same year the compulsory primary education was extended within the radius of five to ten miles of the District headquarters in Adivasi areas.

The number of primary schools run by the Department of Tribal Welfare in the year 1956-57 was four primary and five nursery schools (*Balwadi.*) The number of students increased from 151 in 1956-57 to 267 in 1961-62 but decreased to 214 in 1962-63.

No fees are charged from the students of Adivasi, Harijan and other Backward Class students. During the year 1963-64 there were 144 students of these Classes in the colleges, 662 in higher secondary schools, 2,973 in middle schools and 16,440 in primary schools of the District. Scholarship to 1,995 boys and 85 girls of these classes, amounting to Rs. 1,58.444 and Rs. 10,700 respectively, were also granted during the year. The Tribal Welfare Department was running 24 Chhattrawas for these classes accommodating about 513 students at a cost of Rs. 1,61,830 in 1963-64.

In view of special difficulties of educational expansion in tribal areas, the State Government have now entrusted the responsibilities of educational expansion in these areas to the Tribal Welfare Department. As such, all those institutions, so far run by the Education Department in Tribal areas have been transferred to this Department.

GENERAL EDUCATION

Systematic attempts in the direction of pre-primary education were made after the year 1951 when under the First and Second Plan periods, Balmandirs in three principal towns, *viz.*, Khargon, Maheshwar, and Mandleshwar were established. The children in the age-group of three to six years are imparted Instructions. The number of children in 1951 was 89, and in 1956 it increased to 94. In 1961 the children in these schools increased to 129. In 1963-64 there were three *Balmandirs* and five *Balwadis*. The number of students in these institutions increased to 389, taught by 15 teachers. The expenditure on *Balmandirs* during the year 1963-64 amounted to Rs. 25,300 against Rs. 12,119 in 1962-63.

Primary Education

The progress of primary education prior to 1900 has already been discussed in the earlier pages. To take up the thread we witness a more rapid advance thereafter in the field of primary education in the District. An awakening for the cause of education became noticeable among the general populace. In the Barwani tract in 1901-02, there were 24 primary schools. By the end of the decade in 1909-10 the number of such schools increased to 35 (including three girls' schools), apart from one high school attended by 1,606 pupils. The expenditure on education in the tract amounted to Rs. 11,461 during the year. In the Khargone tract of the District, in the year around 1907-08, there were 24 schools of which 3 were at Khargone.

A period of slackening followed thereafter in the Barwani tract when the primary education received a set-back owing to various factors including poor attendance, resulting into closure of a few schools. Though the number of primary schools declined from 35 in 1909-10 to 28 (including three girls') in 1918-19, the number of students increased to 1,889 (including the high school) in 1916-17. Enrolment, however, declined to 1,564 in 1918-19. The expenditure on education went on increasing during this period, and from Rs. 11,461 in 1909-10 it stepped up to Rs. 21,436 in 1918-19.

The 'twenties of the Century witnessed some sweeping advance in Indore State. In 1925, Compulsory Primary Education was introduced under the Act in the City area. Though there was no direct effect of this step on Khargone tract, but a momentum was created in this District also. In the year 1925, of all the schools in this tract, eleven were in Khargone, ten in Maheshwar, nine in Barwaha, eight in Kasrawad, six in Bhikangaon, one in Sendhwa and six in Segaon. A Sanskrit school was also opened at Barwaha. The number of schools administered by the Education Department was 77 in 1929 and 88 in 1930 in the Khargone tract. Just prior to the integration of States and formation of Madhya Bharat Union in 1948, when the boundaries of the District were reconstituted, the number of primary schools reached a record figure of 111, attended by 10,330 students and taught by 299 teachers. In the Barwani tract the total number of schools increased from 34 in 1942-43 to 48 in 1944-45. The

total expenditure on education amounted to Rs. 78,893 in the same year. The Government launched a vigorous drive for educating the masses after the formation of the erstwhile Madhya Bharat State. The first step in the direction of promoting healthy growth of primary education was the passing of the Compulsory Primary Education Act (Act No 64) of 1949. By the year 1952, the primary education was made compulsory in Khargone town. All round efforts were made in the Three Five Year Plans to encourge primary education. The progress of primary education during the Post-Independence period was phenomenal, and the number of primary schools[1] increased to 732 in 1955-56, 941 in 1960-61 and to 1,106 in 1963-64. Similarly, the number of students[2] increased from 10,629 in 1947-48 to 37,729 in 1955-56, 42,184 in 1960-61 and to 60,762 in 1963-64. The details of the Plan-wise progress are given in Appendix.

By 1963-64, primary schools were provided in 900 villages. Efforts under Third Plan were afoot to cover all the villages in the District so that all the children in age-group of 6 to 11 may have the privilege of free education.

Compulsory Primary Education

A landmark in the history of primary education was the passing of the Madhya Bharat Compulsory Primary Education Act of 1951. It was made applicable to Khargone town from the 26th January, 1952. In the following year compulsion was extended to cover students in age-grup of 6 to 11 in all areas within five miles radius of Khargone town. Rajpur and Barwani towns with five to ten miles radius were also brought under compulsion in the same year. Since 2nd October, 1960, Khargone Development Block was also covered. whereas only three compulsory primary schools with 604 students existed in 1952-53, the number increased to 52 in the following year and 68 in 1955-56. By 1961-62, the number of schools increased to 82 with an enrolment of 6,248 students. In 1963-64, the position was as under.—

Areas of Compulsion	No. of Schools	No of Students
Khargone Town	10	3,768
Rajpur Town	4	
Barwani Town	6	
Khargone Town (10 miles radius)	35	3,451
Rajpur (5 miles radius)	28	
	83	7,219

1. Includes compulsory and junior basic schools.
2. Includes compulsory and junior basic school students.

The District Education officer controls and supervises the compulsory primary schools through Assistant Inspectors. For ensuring proper attendance committees have also been established in villages.

Basic Education

Though steps in the direction were taken earlier in Indore, it was not till 1938 that it was decided to give strong vocational bias to the education in middle stages. The year 1938 witnessed some sweeping changes in the middle school in West-Nimar curriculum which afforded an opportunity to the students to discover their aptitude for vocational as against purely literary courses. It was recognised that middle schools should provide education which is unity in itself, and which would enable students to select some vocation at the end of their middle school career. It was sought to banish the prejudices against the rough manual work. In 1938 an industrial class was opened in Digambar Jain High School at Sanawad, which was granted recognition. The students of this class prepared all colours in liquid and powdered form. Book-binding, preparation of wood-polish, boot-polish and manufacture of soap were other additional activities. Apart from this, training in agriculture and farming was imparted to 70 selected students of Devi Ahilya Bai High School, Khargone, which was made compulsory for the students of V and VI classes. By 1940t raining in fruit-culture was also started and agriculture as an additional subject was also introduced in 1943. Soap-making also formed the part of handi-craft work in the schools In the same year weaving, basket making and tanning were introduced in the curriculum of middle schools. A class of vocational training was also opened in the Middle School, Barwaha, for different crafts such as, tin-work, wood-work, cane-work, fire-work, paper and cardboard-work, wire-work, etc. The primary schools curriculum was also revised, and in 1943 we see that efforts were afoot to give a vocational basis to the primary school curriculum. In 1952-53 a weaving centre at Maheshwar, and a carpentry centre at Rajpur were opened in the District.

Now the basic education has come to be accepted as a pattern of National Education. It is imparted through the junior and senior basic schools, and basic training centres. The latter prepare teachers for the basic schools. The new unified syllabus put into practice in 1958-59 is inspired by basic pattern in some or the other form. The policy of the Government is to reorient all primary schools into basic type.

As a consequence the number of basic schools increased from 62 in 1953-54 to 108 by the end of Second Plan period. Of these, 83 were junior basic schools. In 1958-59, a Basic Training School was also started at Barwaha. In 1963-64 there were 89 junior and 9 senior basic schools in the District apart from three basic training schools at Khargone, Barwaha and Barwani. The number of student was 2,031 in senior and 5,852 in junior basic schools taught by 266 teachers The expenses incurred by the Government on basic education in 1963-64 were of the order of Rs. 3,34,225.

Secondary Education

Middle Schools

The education in secondary stage, the accepted pattern of which is six years', is given through middle and senior basic schools with Classes VI to VIII, and higher secondary schools with classes IX to XI. They prepare students for Higher Secondary School Examination of Madhya Pradesh Board of Secondary Education. The policy of the Government for the development of secondary education is mainly based on the recommendations of the Secondary Education Commission.

The education in middle schools is controlled and supervised by the District Education Officer, assisted by Assistant Inspector of Schools. Primary sections are also attached to these schools, while a few are exclusively middle schools.

Whereas there were 15 middle schools in the year 1947-48, the number increased to 21 in 1951-52, and to 31 in 1956-57. By the end of Second Plan period in 1960-61, the number of institutions increased to 49 in middle stages. The progress of middle education is shown in the following Table.—

Year	No. of Schools	No. of Students	No. of Teachers	Expenditure (Rs.)
1947-48	15	902	89	1,73,838
1951-52	21	2,091	274	3,16,514
1956-57	31	3,491	376	3,45,477
1960-61	49	4,978	660	4,16,395
1963-64	86	18,319	671	11,08,222

Higher Secondary Schools

The higher secondary education marks the final stage of secondary education, and is therefore an important mile-stone in the system of education. It consists of classes IX to XI, and the Board of Secondary Education, Madhya Pradesh is responsible for enforceing syllabus, and conducting examinations under the provisions of the new Secondary Education Act, which came into force in 1959. After the publication of the report of the Secondary Education Commission (1951-53), the State Government has been trying to introduce reforms in the curriculum, etc. In pursuance of the policy of the Government, the high schools in the area were gradually converted into higher secondary type.

Early History

The secondary education in West Nimar District started with the establishment of a Middle School in the erstwhile Barwani State in 1891-92 with 29 students. Later at the close of the Century it was raised to a High School, known as Victoria High School, Barwani, with an enrolment of 47 students. But it was not before 1910-11, that the Entrance Class was started with 164 students on the rolls of the school. The number of institutions in this tract remained one but the enrolment increased to 181 by 1916-17. In the Nimar tract of the Holkar State, it was not until 1927 that we witness the opening of a high school by conversion of an Anglo-Vernacular school called Devi Ahilyabai High School at Khargone. Indore State sanctioned the recurring expenditure amounting to Rs. 12,464. The Board of High School and Intermediate Education, United Provinces (now Uttar Pradesh) was approached for recognition. By the year 1928, there where 215 students in this institution. The enrolment further increased to 245 in 1929. However, the average attendance was 184 in 1929. The private middle school, Sanawad, run by the local Jain Samaj, was also raised to high school in 1936.[1] In the Khargone tract, prior to the formation of Madhya Bharat, two high schools met the demand of higher education in the District. The number of high schools in 1947-48 in the reconstituted District, of which one at Sanawad was a private high school, was 3 with 67 students. The expenditure on high school education during the same year amounted to Rs. 50,948. After the formation of Madhya Bharat State, vigorous steps were taken for the spread of secondary education, and in 1948-49 one more high school was opened at Mandleshwar in the newly emerged District of Nimar. The high school at Barwani was raised to the status of Intermediate College in 1950-51. In 1959 it was bifurcated from the Degree College, which came into being in 1957, and a separate Government Higher Secondary School came into being.

The progress of high school education in Plan Periods is given in the following Table.—

Year	No. of Schools	No. of Students	No. of Teachers	Expenditure (Rs.)
1947-48	3	67	54	50,948
1951-52	4	218	68	84,602
1956-57	5	604	75	2,21,253
1960-61	18	2,473	255	4,00,874
1963-64	30	8,760	458	13,64,735

The progress of education of all the aforementioned categories during the Third Plan period and onwards can be seen in Appendix.

1. Now this institution is named as M. P. Jain Higher Secondary School, Sanawad.

Collegiate Education

Government Degree College, Barwani

The present College which had its inception in the form of a school in 1863 during the State times, pioneered the western education in the tract. It appears that till the close of the Century this institution catered to the needs of only primary and middle school education, whereafter, Entrance Class was also started. Later in 1905, this class had to be closed down owing to some difficulties, but after five years it was reopened in 1910-11, duly recognised by Allahabad University. Prior to it, till the close of the last Century, the school remained affiliated to Calcutta University.

The number of students in 1900-01 was 47, which increased to 181 in 1916-17. In 1904-05 practical class in elementary agriculture was also introduced. During the second quarter of the Century there was overall expansion of higher education, and as a result the enrolment touched 262 in classes from VII to X in 1943-44, taught by 11 teachers. An expenditure of Rs. 18,694 was incurred. It was affiliated to the Board of High School and Intermediate Examination, Ajmer.

After the Independence, and consequent formation of erstwhile Madhya-Bharat Union, the Victoria High School, Barwani, was raised to the status of an Intermediate College in 1950-51. In response to the popular demand, and the policy of expansion of university education, the school was further raised to a degree college in 1957. Recently in 1966, post-graduate classes in Economics have also started in the College. Political Science classes at graduate level have also been introduced in 1966. It is housed in the old Victoria High School building, constructed in 1935.

The instructions are imparted in three faculties, *viz.*, Arts, Science and Commerce, leading to Bacholar's degree of Vikram University. The number of students on the rolls of the College in 1961-62 was 94 in Science, 101 in Commerce and 57 in Arts faculty. Since then the number of students has increased to 408, and the teachers to 26, in 1963-64.

The College library contains about 6,094 books on various subjects apart from subscribing 35 magazines and journals of educative value. There is also a reading-room. The hostel attached to the College has 34 rooms and provides for 68 students.

Government Degree College, Khargone

The present College came into being is 1927 as a high school in the then Holkar State, and was the first institution to be raised from Anglo-Vernacular School. After the integration of States, popular demand pressed for its raising to an intermediate college, and the efforts bore fruit in 1955. The dream of a degree college was also fulfilled in 1958, when the new Government of Madhya Pradesh raised it to a degree status—the second in the District. It provides for

instructions in Arts, Science and Commerce, leading to a Bacholar's degree in the subject. In 1966, Geography has also been introduced as a subject. The total number of students in 1961-62 was 186, of whom 178 were boys and 8 girls. Since then the number of students has increased to 447, with 28 teachers on the staff, in 1963-64.

PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Prior to the year 1951, there was no institution imparting professional or technical education, except for some institutions in which vocational subjects were taught. The same has already been discussed in section relating to Basic Education. During the First Five Year Plan, steps in this direction were taken, and the Government started three such centres, two of which imparted training in carpentry and one in weaving. In the year 1961, the number of students in these centres was 102. In 1962-63, the number of students, however, declined to 80. During the year 1962-63 the Government spent Rs. 10,313 on these technical and vocational institutions.

Teachers' Training

At the end of the First Plan period there existed no such institution, but steps were taken during the Second Plan period in 1959-60, and a Basic Training School was started at Barwaha. Since the demand for teachers further increased it became necessary to start another training institution at Barwani in the year 1960-61. The total enrolment capacity in each institution was kept at 100, and in the year 1960-61, about 196 teachers were trained. In 1963-64, the number of training institutions increased to three with 288 teacher-trainees. The expenditure incurred during the year was Rs. 3,37,657.

Forest Guard Training School, Barwaha

Established in 1952, the school had a chequered career, and was closed down after five years. But again in 1961, the institution was revived and began functioning in November. There is a provision of 40 seats in the school. It turns out forest personnel of lower ranks for bringing forest exploitation and management on scientific lines.

ORIENTAL SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

The Education Department of the erstwhile Holkar State, as a matter of policy started Sanskrit *pathshalas* in all the districts of the State. They were then under a separate 'Vedshala Officer', later known as Superintendent of Sanskrit Education. In the year 1922, a Board of Sanskrit Education was formed at Indore on the recommendations of which the Sanskrit schools curriculum was revised. In 1923, Indore became the centre of *Prathmic*, *Madhyama* and *Tirth* examinations of the Calcutta Board for Sanskrit Education.

In the year 1961-62, there were five Sanskrit schools in the District including one non-Government at Mandleshwar. The others were at Maheshwar, Khargone, Barwaha and Barwani. The Government Sanskrit School at Khargone and Maheshwar are the oldest schools. Both are reported to have been started somewhere in the 19th Century. The schools at Barwani and Barwaha were started in 1912 and 1929, respectively. The instructions are imparted in Kavya, Puran, Jyotish, Karmkand, etc. leading to examinations of Kavya-Tirtha, and Madhyama, conducted by the Sanskrit Shiksha Parishad, Calcutta, and Sahitya Shashtriya, Puran Shashtriya and Vyakaran Madhyama examinations of Benares Sanskrit University. During the year 1963-64, the number of students in these Sanskrit schools was 158, taught by seven teachers. The Government spent Rs. 23,050 over these schools during the same year.

ADULT AND SOCIAL EDUCATION

Steps in the direction of social and adult education were taken during the First Plan period. By the end of 1955-56, the number of adult education centres was 50, including a community centre. During the year 1956-57, 30 adult education centres were opened in Bhikangaon Block area. During the year 1963-64 there were 24 part-time, five whole-time social education centres and one school-cum community centre in the District. There were 521 adults on the rolls of these centres, of whom 366 passed out during the year 1963-64. Ten months' course prescribed by the Government is taught in these centres, leading to a qualifying examination. The Government spent about Rs. 11,055 over these centres during this year. These centres are under the control and supervision of Panchayat and Social Welfare Department.

During the year 1965-66, the number of literacy classes increased to 57 against 44 in the previous year. Similarly, the number of adults made literate increased from 379 in 1964-65 to 511 in 1965-66. They were taught by 57 teachers in 1965-66. The Government spent about Rs. 22,451 since 1963-64 on the scheme.

LITERARY TRADITIONS

The cultural unity of the region called Nimar cannot be impaired with the division of the tract into two revenue districts. The area has a rich *Sant Sahitya* of its own, nursed by the saints of the area through the last 400 years. Saint Brahmagiri, the contemporary of the 16th Century saint-poet, Kabir, echoed the area with his simple lyrics. He was followed by Manrangir Swami whose lullabies touched the hearts of the people in the region. Then appeared saint-poet Singaji (1576-1648), whose songs became current in every household. His disciples thereafter kept the flame of *Sant Sahitya* burning, and Khemdas became famous for his *Singa Parchari*. Daludas, a dedicated disciple of Singaji wrote many songs in praise of him. Dhanjidas, who imparted a new style to Nimari literature, was born near Gogaon. He wrote *Abhimanyu Biyah*, *Lilavati*,

Subhadra Biyah, etc. His master-piece and most popular work was, however, *Motilila*, a collection of 175 couplets.

During the 19th Century, we find Rankdas who is responsible for initiating new *sagun*-style in the poetry of the region.[1]

Coming to the thresh-hold of modern times, we find litterateurs striving to keep up the traditions, and further enriching the Nimari literature. Narayan Bavne became know for his stories *Tantiya Mama* and *Kulwanti Bahu*. Namichand Jain has brought out *Bhili Shabdakosh*. Bankatram Anandram of Khudgaon, Bondar Kanhaiyalal of Gogaon, Krishnaram Parsharam of Barud, Fakirnath Rewanath of Umarkhali also contributed in enriching Nimari-poetry in the recent times.[2]

CULTURAL LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES AND PERIODICALS

Nimar Lok Sahitya Parishad, Maheshwar

The long-felt need of a body for the diffusion of Nimari culture and promotion of its literature took shape in 1953, when under the banners of Nimar Lok Sahitya Parishad, a literary and cultural society was established by the local litterateurs. It aims at collecting, promoting and publishing matter on Nimari folk-literature, art and culture. With this was ushered in a new era in the cultural and literary life of the region. The excavations conducted in this area throw ample light on the literary and cultural traditions of the region.

For the last three centuries, the spiritual songs of the poet-saint Singaji are popular among the local populace. The first step taken by the Parishad was to observe the anniversary of saint Singaji.

The fifth anniversary of the Parishad was held in 1958. By this time much literature had been published by the local authors on Nimari culture. A book entitled *Nimari Kavita*, and two issues on *Lok-Sahitya* were also published under the auspicies of the Parishad in 1954 and in 1957. The fortnightly, *Nimar*, published the Nimari folk-literature.

In the year 1954, two camps of 15 days each were organised in the *Adivasi* areas of Bokrata and Bablai with the help of the Parishad to study the life of *Adivasis*.

For the promotion and encouragement of Nimari literature, the Parishad also organised '*Sanja phuli*' story competitions in 1958 to collect specimens of Nimari folk-art. The richness of the ancient Nimari literature has also attracted the 'Malwa Lok Sahitya Parishad,' which conducts research on Nimari

1. Ramnarain Upadhyaya, *Nimadi Aur Uska Lok Sahitya*, pp. 74-81.
2. Ibid., pp. 83-87.

Lok Sahitya. Here it may also be noted that to preserve the cultural unity of the tract it is said that the twin districts of Nimar were termed as East Nimar and West Nimar on the resolution of the Parishad.[1]

In June 1958, the conference of the Parishad decided to establish a museum at Maheshwar, in which it is intended to preserve the pieces of Nimari culture.

At present there are 171 members of the Parishad. The working committee of the Parishad consists of about 22 members of repute.

LIBRARIES

The Education Department maintains about 70 libraries and reading-rooms in the District schools. These have about 10,875 books, and the expenses of the same are met from the school fees. Apart from these, the Social Welfare and Panchayat Department also runs about 16 reading-rooms. During the year 1963-64, the Education Department granted Rs. 4,738 as grant-in-aid to the following public libraries.

	Name of the Library	Year of Establishment
1.	Shri Krishna Vachnalaya, Barwani ..	1919
2.	Shri Krishna Mahila Vachnalaya, Barwani ..	1961
3.	Jyoti Mandir, Barwani	1954
4.	Gandhi Vachnalaya, Anjad	1925
5.	Public Library, Rajpur	1915
6.	Public Library, Mandleshwar	1907
7.	Sharda Sadan Granthalaya, Maheshwar ..	1872
8.	Prince Yashwant Sharda Bhawan, Sanawad ..	1926
9.	Prince Yashwant Library, Khargone ..	1858
10.	Public Library, Thikri	1950

1. *Nimar Lok Sahitya Parishad Parichaya*, p. 12.

CHAPTER XVI

MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

Little is known of the medical facilities which were available in the areas constituting the present West Nimar District in the early times beyond a general statement that the *Ayurvedic* and *Unani* systems of medicine were in vogue. These systems were, however, more popular among the advanced sections of the society, the backward sections being used to their own traditional methods of curing maladies.

The introduction of the western system of medicine in the former Barwani State, can be traced to the existence of a Charitable Dispensary which was serving the Barwani town as early as in 1865-66. The cost of running this Dispensary in that year was Rs. 800, the whole of which was met by the State. The other statistics of this institution show that 542 patients were treated and 373 persons were vaccinated there during the same year. This Dispensary was, at the initial stage, supervised by the Residency Surgeon, Indore. Shortly afterwards, another dispensary was opened at Rajpur, where 732 patients received treatment in 1869-70. The expenditure incurred on the Dispensary in that year amounted to Rs. 606, the entire amount being met by the State. Besides the dispensaries at Barwani and Rajpur, at Pansemal, then described as the most unhealthy district of Barwani, was posted a doctor through whom every possible medical facility was given to the Bhil population in the mountains. But on account of the prejudices against the new system of medicine the people failed to appreciate the benefits of this aid. This was followed by the establishment of a dispensary at Pansemal in October, 1880. In 1884-85 it was decided to open another dispensary at Anjar, but for want of a suitable building this could not be done until 1899-1900. Thus, at the close of the nineteenth Century Barwani State had four dispensaries each at Barwani, Rajpur, Pansemal and Anjar.

The diseases which were prevalent in the State during this Century were malaria, small-pox and cholera. Of these, malaria often prevailed in a virulent form particularly in the hilly parts of the State.

The prevalence of these diseases warranted the Government's attention being paid towards increasing medical facilities in the State. Consequently, two more dispensaries were established at Khetia and Pati by 1901. In addition, a travelling compounder, who lived at Palsud, went round the village located in the hills. In 1903-04, a Women's Hospital, called the Victoria Jubilee Hospital, was established at Barwani. All these establishments were maintained by the

State and were under the supervision of the Agency-Surgeon of Bhopawar Agency at Sardarpur. The total bed-strength in these institutions increased from 20 in 1890 to 42 in 1905-06, and expenditure from Rs. 3,697 to Rs. 12,076 during the same period. The number of indoor and outdoor patients also increased considerably.

Operations were also performed at some of these institutions, particularly at the Barwani Dispensary, where an operation theatre was opened in 1897-98. The major and minor operations performed in 1905 numbered 256 and 1,362, respectively, as against 41 and 875 of 1901.

The necessity for the setting up of a Medical Department for co-ordinating the work of all the medical institutions in the State was urgently felt at this stage, and this culminated in the appointment of a State Surgeon in 1906-07. He looked after the State's Medical Department under the general supervision of the Agency-Surgeon. The dispensaries were classified into three grades. Under this arrangement the General Hospital and the Victoria Jubilee Women's Hospital at Barwani were graded as first class hospitals. These two institutions were headed by the State Surgeon, who was assisted by two Hospital Assistants in the General Hospital and a Lady hospital Assistant in the Women's Hospital. The dispensaries at Pansemal and Rajpur were graded as second class and were placed under Hospital Assistants. The remaining four dispensaries at Anjar, Palsud, Khetia and Pati were placed in the third class.

Another dispensary, also placed in the third was opened at Niwali in 1908-09, making a total of nine hospitals and dispensaries in the State. In the following year, the headquarters of the dispensary at Pati was shifted to Silawad, the reason being that the number of patients attending at the former place was very low. Another measure of medical relief introduced during the second decade of this Century was the sanction in 1911-12 by the Barwani State of a special allotment for free and systematic distribution of quinine among the Bhil population residing in the hilly parts of the State where, as already stated, malaria prevailed in a virulent form. This distribution was done by touring compounders and also by vaccinators during the vaccination season. The gradation of the nine hospitals and dispensaries in the State was later revised, and by 1912-13 four of them were graded as first class and the remaining five were placed in the second class. The first class institutions comprised the General Hospital and the Women's Hospital at Barwani, and the Hospitals at Rajpur and Pansemal, while the others were included in the second class. Each of the second class dispensaries was placed generally under the charge of a Senior Compounder. In order to provide medical facilities to the aboriginal tribes at their residences, compounders of Silawad and Niwali dispensaries frequently toured and distributed medicines. This arrangement continued for a long time and it was reported in 1923-24 that the Senior Compounder in charge of the Silawad Dispensary went on each bazar day to Pati and rendered all possible

medical relief to the people of the Satpura Division of the State. The Compounder at Palsud was also required to visit Niwali and the villages *enroute* on every bazar-day for free distribution of quinine and other medicines to the people of the Niwali Sub-Division.

No other important development took place in the provision of medical facilities in the Barwani State until the 'thirties except for the establishment of a new hospital called the King Edward Memorial Hospital in place of the old General Hospital at Barwani in 1913-14 and the construction of new buildings for the Isolation Wards on the Narmada road at Barwani in 1918-19.

The "Minority Administration" in the State (1930-39) initiated several new measures for increasing medical relief. Principal among them was the introduction in the budget of a new sub-head, *viz.*, "Free Distribution of Quinine" since 1930-31. In order to increase medical aid to women and children, a new building for the existing Women's Hospital was constructed at Barwani in 1935-36 at a cost of Rs. 1,04,333. This Hospital was equipped and furnished at a further cost of Rs. 25,000. It provided accommodation for 33 beds, out of which 16 were meant for gynecic patients, 14 for maternity cases and the remaining three, being located outside the Hospital compound, served as isolation wards. This Hospital was also a centre for the training of nurses. A new dispensary was added at Talwada Deb in February, 1939.

At the same time many improvements were made in the King Edward Memorial Hospital, Barwani; notable among them was the addition of a new ward called Sir B.J. Glancy Medical and Surgical Ward. It was completed in 1933 at a cost of Rs. 23,000. The Hospital was made a centre for anti-rabic treatment from 1935-36 and almost all cases of rabid dog-bite occurring in the State received prophylactic treatment there. The people of the neighbouring villages of other states also took advantage of this centre.

A leprosy survey was also carried out in the different parts of the State in 1936-37 at the instance of the British Empire Leprosy Association. To combat the disease the State Surgeon and two Assistant Surgeons were deputed to Calcutta for training in the treatment of leprosy and on their return a Leprosy Clinic was opened at Barwani. Both out-patients and in-patients were given treatment at this Clinic, the in-patients being accommodated in an isolation ward which was situated on the outskirts of the town, about a mile away from it.

Side by side, attention was also paid to the advancement of medical education in the State. The State was a contributing member of the King Edward Hospital Medical School, Indore, to which an annual grant of Rs. 600 was being made. The State had the privilege of nominating one student for study there. In order to encourage studies in medicine the State granted scholarships to deserving students and absorbed them in State service on their qualifying themselves. Women candidates for midwifery, first-aid and home

nursing were trained in the Barwani Hospitals and were presented for examinations held by the King Edward Memorial Hospital, Indore.

The availability of doctors thus ensured, enabled the State to replace the unqualified compounders, who held charge of some of the dispensaries, by qualified doctors, and also to open new dispensaries facilitating the supply of medicines in rural areas as well. Besides the two well-equipped and well staffed hospitals at Barwani there was, by 1939, a State dispensary practically at every 10 miles. The State maintained two first and six second class hospitals and three dispensaries. The two first class hospitals provided accommodation for 11 (later increased to 75) beds, while those in the second class had a total bed-strength of 20. The King Edward Memorial Hospital was under a Senior Assistant Surgeon, while each of the second class hospitals was under a qualified Sub-Assistant Surgeon. Each of the three dispensaries was under an experienced and senior compounder, designated as Medical Subordinate. The position regarding the number of hospitals and dispensaries continued to be the same until 1944-45, when, it was estimated that there was a hospital or dispensary for every 16,000 persons in the State. All medical aid including medicines were given free of charge to all throughout the State.

The increased medical relief afforded by these institutions also necessitated an increase in expenditure from Rs. 10,024 in 1903-04 to Rs. 69,784 in 1944-45.

At the time of formation of the Union of Madhya Bharat, there were seven hospitals and dispensaries and five ungraded dispensaries in the Barwani State as shown below.—

Hospitals and Dispensaries	Ungraded Dispensaries
1. King Edward Memorial Hospital, Barwani	1. Silawad
2. Victoria Jubilee Women's Hospital, Barwani	2. Pati
3. Civil Dispensary Anjar	3. Niwali
4. ,, ,, Rajpur	4. Talwada Deb
5. ,, ,, Palsud	5. Julwania
6. ,, ,, Khetia	
7. ,, ,, Pansemal	

Coming to the medical facilities existing in the areas of the Nimar District of Holkar State, which now form part of the West Nimar District, two dispensaries were opened at Maheshwar and Khargone in 1882, and by 1885-86 a dispensary was started at Sanawad. Of these, the dispensaries at Khargone and Maheshwar were placed in the first class, while the one at Sanawad was in the second class.

Cholera was the disease which was found to be commonly prevalent in this area of the District during the last quarter of the nineteenth Century. Prominent

among the diseases that appeared in the beginning of 20th Century was plague. At the same time malarial fevers were also on the increase and a system of supplying quinine to the villagers gratis was introduced to meet this problem.

The first decade of this Century witnessed the establishment of more dispensaries. Two fourth class dispensaries were opened at Barwaha and Mandleshwar in 1901-02, the dispensary at Barwaha being upgraded to the third class in the following year. In the same year another dispensary was sanctioned for Bhikangaon, but it could be opened only in 1906. At about this time, a new dispensary building including a lying-in-ward was constructed at Sendhwa. The post of an Assistant Surgeon was created in 1905 to look after the activities of the Medical Department in the Nimar District. A fourth class dispensary each was opened at Brahmangaon, Kasrawad and Warla in 1907. A ward for the treatment of inpatients was constructed at Khargone in the same year. Thus at the close of the first decade medical institutions existed in the then Nimar District at 10 places, *viz.*, Khargone, Maheshwar, Sanawad, Barwaha, Mandleshwar, Bhikangaon, Sendhwa, Brahmangaon, Kasrawad and Warla.

No change took place in the number and location of the medical institutions during the second decade of the Century. During the 'twenties, however, increased medical facilities were provided, particularly in the sphere of maternity and child-welfare services. A maternity ward and a women's ward were added to the Sanawad Dispensary in 1924, the latter having been constructed out of public donations. To educate the public in child-welfare, Baby Weeks were observed from 1925 at Khargone and Sanawad. In order to render maternity services at Barwaha and Meheshwar, the municipalities of these places provided two nurses there in 1925. In 1928 midwives were attached to the District hospitals and dispensaries. In the same year a new hospital building with a ward for four to eight in-patients was built at Barwaha by Their Highnesses, the third and fourth Ma Sahebas, for perpetuating the memory of late His Highness Maharaja Shivajirao. A maternity and women's ward, constructed out of public donations and named as Maharani Chandrawati Bai Maternity Ward, was added to the Khargone Dispensary during the same period. A dispensary building was also constructed at Malwan in 1929 by private contributions. The Table below shows the hospitals and dispensaries in the District at the beginning of the 'thirties.—

Hospital	Graded Dispensary	Ungraded Dispensary
Khargone	1. Barwaha	1. Mohammadpur
	2. Sanawad	2. *Bisthan
	3. Bhikangaon	3. *Un
	4. Kasrawad	4. Mardana
	5. Maheshwar	5. Karahi

*Ayurvedic Dispensary.

Hospital	Graded Dispensary	Ungraded Dispensary
	6. Mandleshwar	6. Tonki
	7. Dehri	7. Segaon
	8. Ojhar	8. Segaon Brahmangaon
	9. Sendhwa	
	10. Warla	

By about this time a District Health and Vaccination Inspector had been posted in the District to look after the public health activities. He toured the District with his mobile dispensary and in addition to his normal work, treated patients in the villages he visited. In the year 1937 the *Ayurvedic* dispensaries located at Bisthan, Pipalgaon and Dehri were converted into allopathic ungraded dispensaries.

Attention was also paid towards the improvement of maternity services in the rural areas. An immediate step taken in this direction was the training of *dais* in 1937 in conjunction with the Association for the Training of Village Dais. By the end of the 'thirties, the Mandleshwar Mission Hospital had provided maternity services, the number of labour cases treated there in 1940 and 1941 being 24 and 48, respectively. On account of persistent public demand a dispensary was opened at Julwanya in June 1948, and a maternity home at Maheshwar in 1949-50.

In the year 1951, the District of Nimar had in all 79 medical institutions which included two hospitals, 19 civil dispensaries, 28 ungraded dispensaries, 24 *Ayurvedic* dispensaries and 6 maternity homes with a total bed strength of 259 as detailed below.—

Hospital	Bed Strength	Civil Dispensary	Bed Strength	Ungraded Dispensary	Ayurvedic Dispensary	Maternity Home
Barwani Tahsil						
1. Civil Hospital, Barwani (Comprising the King Edward Memorial Hospital and Victoria Women's Jubilee Hospital)	135		—	1. Silawad	1. Sondul	1. V. J. Women's Hospital, Barwani
				2. Pati		
Rajpur Tahsil						
		1. Anjar	8	3. Talwada Deb	2. Bhagsur	2. Civil dispensary, Rajpur
		2. Rajpur	4	4. Julwanya	3. Gandhawal	3. Civil Dispensary, Anjar
		3. Palsud	2	5. Baru Phatak	4. Bilwa Deb	
		4. Ojhar	4	6. Brahmangaon	5. Dawana	
		5. Thikri	—	7. Nagalwadi	6. Khurampura	
Khargone Tahsil						
2. Main Hospital, Khargone	30	6. Gogaon		8. Ghegaon	7. Muhammadpur	4. Main Hospital Khargone
				9. Umarkhadis	8. Bistan	
				10. Nagjhiri	9. Dehri	
				11. Raibidpura	10. Segaon	
					11. Un	
					12. Keli	
					13. Nandgaon	
					14. Barud	
					15. Dhulkot	
Maheshwar Tahsil						
		7. Padlya	—	12. Dhargaon	—	5. Civil Dispensary, Maheshwar
		8. Maheshwar	8	13. Choli		
		9. Mandleshwar	4	14. Somakhedi		

Hospital	Bed Strength	Civil Dispensary	Bed Strength	Ungraded Dispensary	Ayurvedic Dispensary	Maternity Home
			Sendhwa Tahsil			
		10. Khetia	4	15. Niwali	16. Malwan	—
		11. Pansemal	2	16. Dhanora	17. Dhawali	
		12. Sendhwa	30	17. Jhopoli		
		13. Warla	2	18. Balwadi		
			Bhikangaon Tahsil			
		14. Bhikangaon	4	19. Siwana	18. Banjhar	6. Civil Dispensary, Sanawad
				20. Bamnala	19. Chainpur	
					20. Mitawal	
			Barwaha Tahsil			
		15. Bedia	—	21. Jethawai	21. Dowda	
		16. Sanawad	12	22. Dhakalgaon	22. Katkut	
		17. Barwaha	8	23. Bangarda	23. Balwada	
		18. Bagod	—	24. Kanapur		
			Kasrawad Tahsil			
		19. Kasrawad	2	25. Mardana	24. Pipalgaon	
				26. Balakwada		
				27. Balasamud		
				28. Multhan		
Total	165	19	94	28	24	6

Besides these institutions, a T.B. Clinic and a Leprosy Clinic also functioned at Barwani.

PUBLIC HOSPITALS AND DISPENSARIES

Organization of the Medical Department

The dispensaries in the Barwani State functioned under the supervision of the Agency-Surgeon, Bhopawar, until 1906-07, when a State Surgeon was appointed to look after the State's Medical Department under the general supervision of the Agency-Surgeon. In the Nimar District of the former Holkar State, first an Assistant Surgeon and later a District Medical Officer looked after the affairs of the Medical Department.

In Madhya Bharat the Medical and public health activities in the Nimar District were under the administrative control of the Civil Surgeon and District Medical Officer, with headquarters at Barwani. This arrangement continued until 1st January, 1956 when a District Medical Officer of Health was appointed to look after the public health activities in the District. Under the existing set-up, the District Medical Officer and Civil Surgeon, and the District Medical Officer of Health have been redesignated as Civil Surgeon and Additional Civil Surgeon, respectively. Their headquarters continue to be at Barwani. They are assisted by Medical Officers of the subordinate rank and other para-medical personnel.

Hospitals and Dispensaries

After the formation of Madhya Bharat and particularly after the launching of the Five Year Plan, there has been considerable expansion of medical institutions. To cite only a few, a maternity home was started at Maheshwar in 1949-50; a new in-patients ward known as the Mahajan Ward, was opened at the Khargone Hospital in 1951-52; a T.B. Clinic with six general beds was opened at Barwani on 15th December, 1951 and another T.B. Clinic with four beds was opened at the Main Hospital, Khargone, on the 15th August, 1954.

Ayurvedic dispensaries, 11 in number as shown below, were established during the First Plan period at a cost of Rs. 38,787.—

Year	Place	Tahsil
1952-53	Dhulkot	Khargone
	Dhawali	Sendhwa
1954-55	Balkuwan	Barwani
	Deshnawal	Khargone
	Aasapur	Maheshwar
1955-56	Chatli	Sendhwa
	Haribad	Rajpur
	Jhirnya	Bhikangaon
	Bamandi	Kasrawad
	Ratanpur	Barwaha
	Piplya Bujurg	Maheshwar

During 1953-54 the three civil dispensaries at Thikri, Rajpur and Kasrawad were converted into primary health centres under the intensive development phase of the Development Blocks. Shortly afterwards, a family planning centre was started at Barwani.

By the end of the First Five Year Plan, *i.e.*, in 1956 the number of various types of hospitals and dispensaries in the District was 102 as shown below.

Hospitals	No.
District	1
Civil	2
Dispensaries	
Graded	18
Ungraded	28
T.B. Clinics	2
Leprosy Clinic	1
Maternity Home	1
Child Welfare* Centres	11
Primary Health Centres	3
Family Planning Centre	1
Total No. of Allopathic institutions	68
Total No. of *Ayurvedic* institutions	34
Grand Total	102

These institutions provided accommodation for 342 beds, the category-wise distribution of which is given below.—

General	259
T.B. institutions	10
Maternity	55
Primary Health Centre	18
Total	342

The ratio of beds per 10,000 population was 4.5

The Second Plan period saw a further expansion of medical facilities in the District. Notable among them was the opening of graded Allopathic dispensaries at Niwali, Dhanora and Barud in 1958. In the same year a V.D. unit was established at Barwani under a scheme of the State Tribal Welfare Department, and a primary health centre was established in the Barwani Block with headquarters at Silawad. In the following year, the Public Health Department took over all the public health institutions such as, primary health centres, sub-centres, etc., which had entered into post-intensive phase. A family planning

*Includes Sub-Centres

clinic at the Civil Hospital, Barwani, and rural family planning centres at Kasrawad, Silawad and Thikri were established in 1959. In the same year a primary health centre was also established at Bhikangaon. A significant step taken in 1960-61 was the increase of six beds at the Civil Hospital, Khargone, and the increase in maternity beds at Civil Hospital, Mandleshwar, Civil Dispensary, Julwanya, and Civil Dispensary, Nagalwadi, by eight, four and four beds, respectively.

During the same year a primary health centre was established at Sendhwa and some more family planning clinics were opened. Thus, at the end of the Second Plan period, *i.e.*, by 1960-61 the number of medical institutions in the District was as shown below.—

Name of Medical Institution	No.
District Hospital	1
Civil Hospitals	7
Civil Dispensaries	36
Primary Health Centres	6
Family Planning Centres	9
Matru Grihas	15
T.B. Clinics	2
Leprosy Clinics	9
Ayurvedic Dispensaries	38
V.D. Clinic	1
Total	124

During the Third Five Year Plan, more medical facilities were provided in the District. During 1961 a dispensary at Bistan and a primary health centre at Maheshwar were opened. The extent of health services available in the District on the 31st March 1964 was as under.—

Hospitals (District and Civil)	—	5
Dispensaries (Civil, Graded, Ungraded and subsidised)	—	37
Ayurvedic dispensaries	—	40
T.B. Clinics	—	2
Leprosy Clinics	—	1
Maternity Homes and Child Welfare Centres	—	18
Primary Health Centres	—	12
V.D. Clinic	—	1
Family Planning Centres (Including Mobile Unit)	—	17
Total	—	133

The total bed-strength of these medical institutions was 459, the break-up of which is given below.

Type of Hospital	Category of Beds	
	Males	Females
District Hospital	86	13
Civil Hospitals	60	10
Dispensaries	29	3
T.B. Clinics	11	9
Maternity Homes and Maternity & Child Welfare Centres	—	148
Primary Health Centres	76	14
Total	262	197

The Table below shows the number of indoor and outdoor patients treated in the District each year from 1957 to 1964.—

Year	Indoor	Outdoor
1950	3,838	396,102
1951	6,145	10,20,399
1952	6,338	11,65,646
1953	5,934	10,56,022
1954	6,099	11,57,878
1955	6,618	12,30,237
1956	7,140	15,70,672
1957	7,922	15,70,672
1958	7,921	13,04,029
1959	8,087	11,30,909
1960	7,148	13,67,435
1961	11,215	14,42,810
1962	17,991	14,83,643
1963	10,520	15,60,358
1964	11,078	14,43,744

District Hospital and Victoria Jubilee Women's Hospital, Barwani

Among the public hospitals deserving mention are the District Hospital and the Victoria Jubilee Women's Hospital at Barwani. The District Hospital was formerly known as the King Edward Memorial Hospital, Barwani. Its early history alongwith that of the Victoria Jubilee Women's Hospital has already been narrated. These hospitals provide accommodation for 129 beds and are equipped with laboratory and X-Ray facilities. An Eye Specialist is posted at the District Hospital, where a building for the Eye Ward was constructed in 1955-56. The Hospital also provides facilities for anti-rabic treatment. The

number of patients treated at these two Hospitals each year from 1958 to 1964 is given below.—

Year	Victoria Jubilee Hospital, Barwani					District Hospital, Barwani				
	Indoor			Outdoor		Indoor			Outdoor	
	Remaining	New	Total	New	Old and New	Remaining	New	Total	New	Old and New
1958	14	1,015	1,029	7,774	19,082	93	3,397	3,490	60,420	1,79,926
1959	22	998	1,020	10,032	57,802	105	3,066	3,171	60,192	1,84,400
1960	13	810	823	9,300	42,063	111	2,652	2,763	62,622	2,07,580
1961	13	995	1,008	11,053	54,865	90	1,890	1,980	52,991	1,68,862
1962	21	869	890	7,106	28,615	80	2,023	2,103	51,037	1,74,952
1963	31	1,366	1,397	8,183	26,546	99	2,351	2,450	56,138	1,63,288
1964	33	11,489	15,522	8,520	28,370	87	2,194	2,281	47,327	1,45,053

The District Hospital also affords facilities for the training of nurses. Thirty-one candidates were trained as nurses at this institution between 1956 and 1961 at a cost of Rs. 38,310. This Hospital also serves as a centre for the training of auxiliary nurse-cum-midwives since 1957-58. The number of candidates thus trained each year from 1958-59 to 1964-65 was 8,5,2,9,5,11 and 15, respectively.

Civil Hospital, Khargone, is another important public hospital deserving a special mention. It has a bed-strength of 79. It is equipped with an X-Ray apparatus. The number of patients annually treated at this Hospital from 1958 to 1964 is given below.—

Year	Indoor patients			Outdoor Patients	
	Remaining	New	Total	New	New and Old
1958	60	2,063	2,123	44,373	1,35,821
1959	54	2,455	2,509	43,431	1,19,282
1960	60	2,184	2,244	50,966	1,58,013
1961	71	2,655	2,726	57,148	2,19,051
1962	54	2,810	2,864	64,998	2,23,063
1963	61	3,128	3,189	75,508	2,36,640
1964	73	3,534	3,607	76,385	2,44,106

Medical Facilities in Rural Areas

It has already been stated that in order to provide medical facilities to the aboriginal tribes in their homes, the compounders of the dispensaries at Silawad and Niwali in the former Barwani State frequently toured the villages and distributed medicines. This arrangement continued until the 'thirties when the compounders were replaced by qualified doctors. New dispensaries were also opened at suitable places and it was reported in 1939 that, "it has been made

possible to supply adequate medical aid to the people in rural areas throughout the State within their easy reach."[1]

In the Nimar District of the erstwhile Holkar State, apart from the opening of allopathic and *Ayurvedic* dispensaries in the rural areas from time to time, a District Health and Vaccination Inspector toured the District with his mobile dispensary and treated patients.

The extension of medical relief to rural areas received the special attention of the Government of Madhya Bharat which, to begin with, introduced a system of touring *vaidyas*. This was followed by the opening of dispensaries, particularly *Ayurvedic*. For making medical relief readily available in small villages, a scheme for the supply of medicine-chests was started during the First Plan period. The Village Panchayats were responsible for distribution of medicines. An Inspector was appointed to supervise and ensure the proper use of these chests and their regular refilling. During the First Plan period, 304 medicine-chests were thus distributed in the District at a cost of Rs. 47,260. A mobile dispensary unit under an Assistant Surgeon was also established in the District during 1953-54 at a cost of Rs. 32,360.

As indicated earlier, primary health centres have been established in the District at several places during the Plan period and at the close of 1962-63, nine such centres were in position. The Block-wise location of the primary health centres and sub-centres is Tabulated below.

Name of Block	Location of Primary Health Centre	Location of Sub-Centres of Primary Health Centre		
1. Kasrawad	Kasrawad	1. Pipalgaon	2. Bamandi	3. Singun
2. Rajpur	Rajpur	1. Palsud	2. Ojhar	3. Bhagsur
3. Thikri	Thikri	1. Brahmangaon	2. Baruphatak	3. Talwada Deb
4. Barwani	Silawad	1. Chiklia	2. Balkua	3. Bagud
5. Bhikangaon	Bhikangaon	1. Sundrel	2. Selda	3. Rodia
6. Sendhwa	Sendhwa	1. Balwadi	2. Zopalia	3. Babdad
7. Maheshwar	Maheshwar	1. Mahatwada	2. Bardia	3. Dhargaon
8. Barwaha	Barwaha	1. Kanapur	2. Jethawal	3. Balwada
9. Khargone	Shegaon	1. Chegaon	2. Talakpura	3. Dalka

Another primary health centre is functioning at Zhirnia since 1st January, 1964.

Excepting the Primary Health Centre of Barwani, each Centre is staffed by a Medical Officer, Health Visitor, one to four Midwives and a Sanitary Inspector. The Barwani Block being a Special Multipurpose Tribal Welfare Block, its centre is staffed by two Assistant Surgeons, two Compounders, one Sanitary Inspector, One Health Visitor and four Midwives.

1. Minority Administration Report of Barwani State, 1930-1939, p. 100.

Ayurvedic Dispensaries

The establishment of *Ayurvedic* dispensaries from time to time in the past has been alluded to earlier. Before the beginning of the First Five Year Plan, there were 24 *Ayurvedic* dispensaries which increased to 34 in 1961. These are located at the following places.—

1. Sondul	2. Dawana	3. Mohammedpur
4. Bistan	5. Bablai	6. Segaon
7. Un	8. Nandgaon	9. Malwan
10. Pipalgaon	11. Dodwan	12. Balwada
13. Katkut	14. Banzar	15. Chenpur
16. Karhai	17. Bhagsur	18. Gandhawal
19. Bilwadeb	20. Khurrampura	21. Keli
22. Mithawal	23. Dhawali	24. Dhulkot
25. Balkuwan	26. Ashapur	27. Deshnawal
28. Haribad	29. Chatli	30. Anjangaon
31. Bamandi	32. Pipliya Bujurg	33. Ratanpur
34. Bhaoti		

A dispensary was also established at Abhali in 1962. No *Ayurvedic* dispensaries were started in 1963 and 1964. Each *Ayurvedic* dispensary is under the charge of a *vaidya*. Since 1962-63 a compounder each has also been provided for the dispensaries at Karhai and Segaon.

Maternity and Child Welfare

Formerly, maternity and child welfare services in the urban areas were rendered by hospitals and dispensaries while in rural areas the indigenous *dais* conducted these services. Increased attention has been paid to this matter since the formation of Madhya Bharat. During the First Plan period, six Maternity Welfare Centres were set up at Rajpur, Anjar, Sanawad, Barwaha, Kasrawad and Sendhwa at a cost of Rs. 32,413. Besides these two more maternity welfare centres were opened in the District with an outlay of Rs. 13,198 under a scheme of the Government of India. Child welfare work was also included in the activities of these centres. One of these was opened at Barwani in 1951-52 with sub-centres at Silawad, Pati, Gandhawal and Sondul. Many more Centres were established in the subsequent years, and at the end of 1964 there were 18 maternity and child welfare centres at the following places in the District.—

1. Barwani	7. Bhikangaon	13. Khetia
2. Khargone	8. Silawad	14. Nagalwadi
3. Maheshwar	9. Rajpur	15. Gandhawal
4. Anjar	10. Julwanya	16. Sondul
5. Sendhwa	11. Kasrawad	17. Thikri, and
6. Sanawad	12. Mandleshwar	18. Pati

Each centre is provided with Midwives, *Dais* and Health Visitors. Besides conducting deliveries at the centre, they tour villages falling within their charge.

During the Second Plan period 34 additional beds—6 at Khargone, 8 at Anjar, 10 at Sanawad, 4 at Maheshwar and 6 at Bhikangaon—were provided at a cost of Rs. 30, 475.

In 1960, maternity beds at the civil dispensaries of Julwanya and Nagalwadi were increased by four each, while the Civil Hospital, Mandleshwar had an addition of eight.

Steps were also taken for the training of *dais* in the District. During the First Plan, out of 43 admitted, 22 candidates were declared trained at Barwani incurring an expenditure of Rs. 22,536. During the first year of the Second Plan 19 more candidates were trained. Before the launching of the Five Year Plan such training was being given only at Barwani. This training was discontinued from 1957. In 1962-63, training of professional *dais* was started at the primary health centres of Rajpur, Thikri and Kasrawad, each with a capacity of 10 seats. A scheme for the training of indigenous *dais* was also started in the District and during 1956-61, 10 *dais* were thus trained.

Red Cross Society

In addition to the medical facilities extended through Government agencies the West Nimar District branch of the Indian Red Cross Society also renders medical relief to the poor and needy persons in cash and kind.

Indian Medical Association

The only institution existing in the District for disseminating knowledge on medicine and public health is the West Nimar branch of the Indian Medical Association. Its membership comprises both Government and private doctors. The Association arranges fortnightly or monthly meetings for discussion on the causes and remedies of serious diseases common to the District.

PRIVATE HOSPITALS

There is only one private hospital in the District, *viz.*, the Mission Hospital at Mandleshwar, which was established in the year 1927. It provides accommodation for 45 beds and facilities for outdoor treatment as well.

The number of private medical practitioners including Allopaths, *Vaidyas* and *Hakims* in the District towards the end of 1961 was 67—4 at Mandleshwar, 4 at Bhikangaon, 8 at Barwaha, 5 at Rajpur, 1 at Kasrawad, 6 at Sendhwa, 13 at Khargone, 12 at Barwani, 7 at Anjar, 4 at Maheshwar and 3 at Khetia.

These practitioners do not have any arrangement for indoor treatment.

SANITATION

Certain sanitary measures were inaugurated in Barwani town in 1881-82 with an establishment costing Rs. 969 per year. No other measures appear to

have been taken until 1902-03 when, consequent on the appearance of plague in the villages adjoining Barwani State, people coming into the State from affected places were subjected to thorough examination. For this purpose, Inspection Posts were established at Julwanya, Lingna, Anjar, Talwara Deb, Khetia and Pansemal. In the same year, further attention was paid to sanitation at Barwani, Anjar and Rajpur where roads were improved and widened. In the following year the question regarding construction of a big drain to take all dirty water of the Barwani town into a garden was taken up. Shortly afterwards, rules for the sanitation of Pansemal and Khetia were passed and given effect to from 1907-08. Generally speaking, with the exception of Barwani town, sanitation was said to have been 'bad'. Near about this time, municipalities were established in the State at Barwani, Anjar, Rajpur, Pansemal and Silawad. In order to further improve the sanitation in the State, suitable rules for the working of these municipalities were framed in 1910-11 and brought into force from the following year. Another significant step taken in this direction was the appointment of the State Surgeon as Vice-President of the Barwani Municipal Committee and the appointment of Medical subordinates in charge of *pargana* head-quarters dispensaries as Vice-Presidents of their respective municipal committees.

Apart from these measures of sanitation, necessary steps for the prevention and control of epidemics, plague and cholera were also undertaken from time to time. These included disinfection, evacuation, segregation and inoculation.

The 'Minority Administration' of Barwani State (1930-39) not only intensified the public health measures mentioned above, but also introduced new ones. The most important among them was the provision of facilities for drinking water. During the period from 1930-31 to 1938-39, 29 public wells in the villages were either newly sunk or thoroughly repaired and renovated at a total cost of Rs. 9,594. Further, several step-wells which were open on one side were converted into public wells, closed by masonry work on all sides. This was done because the wells being open on one side easily became dirty and insanitary, capable of spreading guinea-worm disease among the village population.

Public health services in the Nimar District of Holkar State received attention mostly when an epidemic broke out. This position continued until 1928 when, consequent on the establishment of the Department of Public Health and Sanitation in the State in 1926, a permanent staff was sanctioned for Nimar District. This staff consisted of a District Health and Vaccination Inspector and some Vaccinators. The Inspector toured the District with his mobile dispensary and besides treating patients and chlorinating wells, performed inoculations and vaccinations. He also visited schools and examined children. The public health staff attended the fairs at Sanawad, Khargone, Kasrawad and Maheshwar, supervised the sanitary arrangements there and did propaganda work.

A beginning in the improvement of public sanitation was made in 1913 when, with a view to educating the revenue staff in the elements of sanitation so as to enable them to efficiently deal with the scourge of epidemics, pamphlets on sanitation in Hindi and Marathi were distributed. Later, many other measures, both executive and statutory, were adopted to deal with the epidemics. Among the statutory measures, mention may be made of the Indore Epidemic Diseases Act (No. 17 of 1928) which conferred upon the Government powers to take special measures and to prescribe temporary regulations for the prevention of any dangerous epidemic disease.

It was also arranged that in towns where there were municipalities and in places where the Village Panchayat Act was in force, it was one of the duties of the popular representatives to look after the local conservancy and sanitation. Rules for conservancy arrangements in villages to be carried out by Gaothi Panchayats were issued in 1928, and Mahal Boards and District Boards were specially enjoined upon to pay particular attention to this matter.

The municipalities of Barwaha, Bhikangaon and Sanawad were induced from time to time to take steps regarding conservancy and sanitation. A survey to assess the incidence of guinea-worm in the District was undertaken between 1940 and 1942. It revealed that the incidence of guinea-worm was prevalent in five villages of Bhikangaon Tahsil, six villages each of Kasrawad, Barwaha and Maheshwar Tahsils and two villages of Sendhwa Tahsil. To control this disease as many as 12 step-wells were converted into draw-wells during this period.

After the formation of Madhya Bharat, greater attention was paid towards public health activities. To start with, a District Medical Officer of Health with a Sanitary Inspector was appointed on 1st January, 1956, with headquarters at Barwani. Later, the number of Sanitary Inspectors was increased. The District Medical Officer was mainly responsible for all activities pertaining to public health and sanitation in the District. He also acted as an adviser in public health matters to all municipalities in the District. For purposes of public health administration in rural areas, the District was divided into three circles.

Barwani Circle

The Circle consisted of the tahsils of Barwani, Rajpur and Sendhwa under the immediate charge of the Sanitary Inspector, Barwani, assisted by eight vaccinators.

Khargone Circle

The circle consisted of the tahsils of Khargone and Bhikangaon and the Sanawad *tappa* of the Barwaha Tahsil under the Sanitary Inspector, Khargone, assisted by four vaccinators.

Maheshwar Circle

This consisted of the tahsils of Maheshwar, Kasrawad and Barwaha (excluding Sanawad *tappa*) under the Sanitary Inspector, Maheshwar, with five vaccinators.

The main function of the Sanitary Inspector is to look after the work of rural sanitation, control of epidemics and to supervise the work of the vaccinatiors.

Under the existing set-up the public health administration in the District is under the charge of the Civil Surgeon Barwani, who is assisted by an Additional Civil Surgeon in place of the former District Medical Officer of Health. The staff of the primary health centres, mobile unit, V.D. unit and others assist them in public health work. The municipal committees are responsible for the maintenance of public health in their respective areas. The sanitation of rural areas is now the function of Gram Panchayats. As on 31st March, 1964 personnel on the public health side consisted of seven Sanitary Inspectors, 14 Health Visitors, 42 Midwives and 23 Vaccinators.

Water-Supply

Until the early 'fifties there was no protected water-supply in the towns except at Sanawad where water was supplied by the Municipal Committee through taps. In 1951, the Municipal Committee, Khargone, started water-supply in the town partly through water lorries and partly through taps. In order to provide water-works and a Master Plan for Khargone town a survey was undertaken during the First Plan period. Consequently, two water reservoirs were constructed in the town. The first reservoir with a capacity of one lakh gallons of water was constructed on the right bank of the Kunda river at a cost of Rs. 93,600 and was commissioned on 16th February, 1966. The second reservoir with double the capacity of the former is located near the new Municipal Office and was completed at a cost of Rs. 1,64,000. It started functioning from 6th April, 1959.

In other towns drinking water is obtained from wells and rivers while in the rural areas streams, step-wells, draw-wells and jhiras are the sources of water-supply. Chlorination and disinfection of drinking-water is done by the Sanitary Inspector and his staff in the rural areas, whereas in the urban areas this is done by the municipal committees.

In addition, other measures are underway to ensure pure and adequate water-supply in the District. These include construction of new sanitary wells, repair of existing wells, closure of step-wells, etc. The progress of these measures in each Development Block has been given in Appendix.

Another principal activity of the public health staff is the maintenance of public health at annual fairs by attending to sanitary arrangements there, taking preventive measures against the out-break of epidemics like cholera and small-pox,

and giving health education through the usual media. They also visit police stations, panchayats and municipal offices for the checking of vital statistics, vaccination and re-vaccination operations, inoculations against cholera, health education and propaganda through films, models, charts, leaflets, booklets, etc. As will be seen later, a special staff was also engaged in the District recently to push up vaccination operations. The Assistant Surgeon in charge of the Mobile Dispensary Unit, while on tour, not only treats patients but also imparts education on health and hygiene.

Family Planning

Started in 1956 in the District, the Family Planning Programme made tangible progress during the Second Plan period. Seven rural family planning clinics were set up at Bhikangaon, Sendhwa, Rajpur, Maheshwar, Kasrawad, Thikri and Silawad at a cost of Rs. 25,743. The Clinic at Barwani was established at the District Hospital on the 1st March, 1959 while that of Khargone was set up at the Civil Hospital on the 9th August, 1959. This compaign has been further stepped up in the Third Plan period and family planning centres or clinics have been added at Barwaha, Sali, Palsud, Ojhar, Barufatak, Brahmangaon and Talwada Deb. Besides, there is a mobile unit at Barwani. Thus there were 17 family planning institutions in the District in 1963-64.

The rural clinics are located at the primary health centres, while those in the urban areas are located at the hospitals or dispensaries.

DISEASES COMMON TO THE DISTRICT

Malaria

As stated earlier one of the principal diseases commonly prevalent in the erstwhile Barwani State during the latter half of the nineteenth Century was malaria. It appeared in a virulent form particularly in the hilly parts of the State like Niwali, Pansemal, Silawad and Pati.

As early as in 1870-71 the Deputy Bhil Agent, during his tour of the State, had noticed the "desolation into which much of the country has fallen owing to the growth of malaria breeding jungle."[1] The anti-malaria measures in this period largely consisted of the sale of packets of quinine at the Imperial Post-Offices at Barwani, Anjar, Rajpur and Khatia.

During the present Century also malaria continued to occur in these areas and the steps taken to check its incidence included free distribution of quinine and cinchona by touring compounders and vaccinators. These measures were, however, not very effective as can be seen from the fact that even in 1944-45 malaria was found to be rampant in Barwani State and as many as 27,000

1. Central India Agency Report, 1870-71, p. 28.

persons sought relief from it in that year. Some idea about the extent of its prevalence in recent years can be had from the following figures.—

Year	Seizures	Deaths
1956	403	10
1957	370	5
1958	504	8
1959	461	7
1960	17,356	11
1961	9,107	6
1962	6,042	Nil
1963	145	Nil
1964	95	Nil

In Madhya Bharat anti-malaria operations were launched in 1951-52 with greater intensity in hyper-endemic areas which included Nimar District in general and the town of Barwani with its suburbs in particular. The measures included residual spraying of houses with 2 per cent D.D.T. solution and free distribution of mepacrine and paludrine tablets to the public. These measures gained further momentum with the launching of the National Malaria Control Programme in the District in 1953-54. A separate malaria unit was set up for D.D.T. spraying, etc., with headquarters at Barwani, its jurisdiction at first covering the tahsils of Khargone, Bhikangaon and Rajpur. In 1954-55 the Tahsil of Barwani and in 1955-56 the tahsils of Sendhwa and Barwaha were also included for D.D.T. spraying. In all these tahsils, two rounds of D.D.T. spraying with 5 per cent solution of D.D.T. was done every year from 1st June to 1st November. Epidemiological survey was also carried out from December to March. During the spray season resochin, paludrine and mepacrine tablets were distributed to the malarious patients free of cost.

The Malaria Unit, Barwani, was divided into four sub-units on 1st May, 1956 each with headquarters at Barwani, Rajpur, Khargone, and Barwaha. Each sub-unit was provided with a staff consisting of a Senior Malaria Inspector, Malaria Inspector, Superior Field Worker and a Field Worker. Before undertaking D.D.T. work, this staff also conducted spleen survey. In 1953-54 anti-malarial work was done in 524 villages of Khargone Tahsil and 513 villages of Rajpur Tahsil. In the following year 397 villages—55 in Khargone, 40 in Bhikangaon, 88 in Sendhwa, 84 in Barwani, 49 in Rajpur, 45 in Barwaha, 13 in Maheshwar and 23 in Kasrawad—were sprayed under this scheme. An expenditure of Rs. 10,000 was incurred during the First Plan period over these activities.

The National Malaria Control Programme continued until 1st April, 1959 when, in pursuance of a decision of the Government of India, it was converted into National Malaria Eradication Programme. This Programme envisaged intensification of spraying in hyper-endemic areas in order to bring down the quantum

of infection in the community to a very low level. The sub-units remained unchanged. The work done by the entire unit in West Nimar District each year from 1957 to 1964 is tabulated below.—

Year	No. of Villages in which D.D.T. Spraying was done		No. of Children Examined for Spleen	No. Found Positive	No. of Blood Slides	No. Found Positive
	Ist Round	IInd Round				
1957	919	721	Not done	Nil	Nil	Nil
1958	1,333	1,152	21,376	1,395	Nil	Nil
1959	1,619	1,619	13,613	237	Nil	Nil
1960	1,683	1,683	8,425	3	2,133*	Nil
1961	1,739	1,739	Not done	Not done	27,026	Nil
1962	1,740	1,740	—do—	—do—	55,375	59
1963	1,024	1,024	—do—	—do—	1,08,269	145
1964	121	121	—do—	—do—	93,266	95

Simultaneously with D.D.T. spraying, surveillance operations have also been launched since 1960 to comb out the residual infection in the community. There are two types of surveillance, *viz.*, active and passive. In the former type a member of the specially appointed staff of the Malaria Eradication Programme visits each and every house at periodical intervals, enquires about cases of fever, takes blood smears and gets them examined under the microscope. If the blood smear is positive for malaria, it is the responsibility of the surveillance staff to give a complete course of anti-malaria drugs to cure the disease. In the latter type, full use is made of the medical profession, hospitals and dispensaries, social welfare organizations, voluntary workers, etc., to report to the malaria organization suspected cases of malaria coming to their notice. Blood smears are taken also from such cases for examination. Both types of surveillance can be applied simultaneously. The Table below will show the work done in the District under each type from 1960 to 1964.—

Year	No. of Fever cases detected	No. of Blood smears collected	Result
Active Surveillance			
1960 (from August)	2,497	2,133	Nil
1961	24,557	23,946	Nil
1962	45,196	41,125	52
1963	79,361	74,622	41
1964	63,886	61,571	40
Passive Surveillance			
1960 (from August)	2,116	1,517	Nil
1961	4,086	1,146	Nil
1962	19,615	14,727	2
1963	21,963	13,653	21
1964	16,852	13,890	24

*Surveillance work started from August, 1960, hence figures are from August, 1960 to December, 1960.

As a result of these measures, there is a marked fall in the spleen rates as will be evident from the following Table.—

Year	Percentage	Year	Percentage
Before Beginning of National Malaria Eradication Programme		After Beginning of National Malaria Eradication Programme	
1953-54	25.6	1956-57	17.5
1954-55	22.5	1957-58	12.3
1955-56	19.3	1958-59	6.5
		1959-60	1.9
		1960-61	0.03
It was nil in subsequent years.			

The infant parasite rate after the introduction of the National Malaria Eradication Programme was 2.5 per cent in 1957-58 and nil in the subsequent years.

The progress of the National Malaria Eradication Programme was recently evaluated by an Independent Appraisal Team of the Government of India. In accordance with the recommendations of this Team, D.D.T. spraying was withdrawn from the areas comprising the sub-units of Rajpur and Barwaha. The work of D.D.T. spraying in the other sub-units, *viz.*, Barwani and Khargone continued as the Team found that there was insufficient slide collection in the Khargone sub-unit and that positive cases were detected in the Barwani sub-unit.

Tuberculosis

Statistics about tuberculosis are available only since the 'fifties. In 1951 there were 421 seizures and three deaths. As against this, the year 1953 recorded 2,420 seizures and 19 deaths. Though the number of seizures rose to 3,288 in 1956, the number of deaths in that year was only 16. The Table below will show that there was considerable fluctuation in these figures in the subsequent years.

Year	Seizures	Deaths
1956	3,288	16
1957	2,551	13
1958	2,525	17
1959	1,970	15
1960	18,491	14
1961	9,107	6
1962	15,832	20
1963	829	35
1964	1,048	45
1965	1,896	22

Conclusion can, however, be drawn that tuberculosis is on the increase in the District.

Many measures have been undertaken for the control of this disease. As stated earlier, a T.B. Clinic with six beds was opened at Barwani on the 15th December, 1951. Another Clinic with a bed-strength of four was established at Khargone on the 15th August, 1954. The latter is located in the Main Hospital building at Khargone. Their establishment involved an expenditure of Rs. 47,790 during the First Plan period. A ten-bedded T.B. Hospital has also been established at Khargone by the Tribal Welfare Department since 26th November, 1961, and pending the construction of a separate building, the Hospital started functioning in an existing building of the Health Department.

The preventive measures mainly consist of the B.C.G. vaccination which was launched in the District in 1951-52 under the auspices of the World Health Organisation and the International Tuberculosis Campaign. For this purpose a B.C.G. team was organised which carried out tests and B.C.G. vaccination work during the years 1959 to 1961.

Trachoma

Among the diseases of the eye the incidence of trachoma is 39 per cent in the District. This was revealed by a Pilot Project Survey undertaken in 1959 under the auspices of the Indian Council of Medical Research. Eye camps were organised in the District from time to time to facilitate eye treatment in the rural areas. Such camps were organised at Bhikangaon in 1953-54, at Kasrawad in 1954-55, at Thikri in 1955-56 and at Mandleshwar in 1956-57. The only available statistics in respect of the last mentioned camp show that out of a total number of 693 cases conducted, 188 were major operations. Another eye camp was organised at Kasrawad on a departmental basis in 1960, between the 21st November and 3rd December, 1960. The number of patients examined and the number of operations performed was 685 and 155, respectively. The patients admitted for operation were provided boarding and lodging facilities free of charge. The eye camps at Mandleshwar and Kasrawad incurred an expenditure of Rs. 5,105 during the Second Plan Period.

Leprosy

The prevalence of leprosy was also noticed in Barwani State during the 19th Century. In 1873-74, as many as 101 persons were found to be afflicted with this disease. Bhilalas, Mankurs and Kachhis were the castes which suffered most from leprosy. It may be of interest to mention here that lepers were not required to live outside the village limits in those times. In the absence of systematic surveys no accurate data regarding its incidence are available. From the spot survey undertaken in 1957, it appears that the incidence of leprosy is fairly high in the District. Formerly, treatment for leprosy was given at the Barwani Hospital; but since August, 1954 a regular Leprosy Clinic has been started at Barwani. The number of patients annually treated at this Clinic from 1958 to 1964 was 1,450, 209,111,162,167,118 and 139, respectively.

Besides the above Clinic, there are 11 dispensary leprosy clinics attached to the various primary health centres, dispensaries and hospitals where out-patient treatment is given by the Medical Officer in charge of these institutions.

Guinea-Worm

The incidence of this disease has been comparatively less in recent years. As against 129 cases recorded in 1952 and 77 in 1956 the years 1958 to 1962 registered only 51,48,29,18, and 13 cases, respectively. Their number increased to 523 in 1963 and to 197 in 1964. Most of these cases were found in the Tahsils of Rajpur, Khargone, Bhikangaon, Barwaha and Maheshwar. As stated earlier, the occurrence of this disease is mainly due to the use of impure drinking-water particularly from insanitary step-wells. As a preventive measure steps have been taken to convert step-wells into draw-wells.

Cholera

Cholera visited the Barwani State off and on during the latter part of the nineteenth Century.

The earliest available statistics about cholera show that in 1872-73 it carried off 125 lives. But its intensity was more severe in 1878-79 when it prevailed for a period of six months resulting in 873 seizures and 373 deaths. The next important period of its visitation was in 1884-85 when parts of the *parganas* of Barwani, Silawad and Rajpur were affected. There were 291 seizures and 146 deaths. Yet another notable period was the year 1899-1900 when sickness of a choleraic type appeared in the State and claimed 200 deaths. During this Century it appeared first at Pansemal in 1911-12, when timely steps were taken to save people from insanitary water-supply by thorough disinfection. Again, it broke out in 1912-13 in Barwani town as well as in the Anjar and Rajpur *parganas* and accounted for 747 attacks and 252 deaths. The other notable period of its out-break was in the 'thirties when it prevailed in a virulent form twice, in June 1937 in the Pansemal *pargana* and in August, 1938. Subsequently, the epidemic spread to the Anjar and Rajpur *parganas* also. Cholera re-visited the State in 1944-45 and took a heavy toll of lives.

In the Nimar District of the former Holkar State cholera appeared in the *parganas* of Khargone and Un as far back as in 1877-78. It raised its ugly head in the month of July, and after a brief pause appeared again. In the following year these areas were again gripped by cholera. The next known period of its visitation was in 1912 when it prevailed in the District for a month. Yet another period of its prevalence was in 1928 when it made its appearance in a mild form in Khargone *pargana*. To combat the epidemic, special officers were deputed to the affected parts where wells were disinfected and anti-cholera vaccine was freely supplied. The epidemic made its appearance again in 1929 in a mild form at Barwaha, Maheshwar and Khargone; in 1930 at Bhikangaon, Sanawad, Sendhwa, Brahmangaon and Kasrawad, in addition to the places affected last

year; in 1931 at Barwaha; and in 1932 at Sendhwa, Khargone, Bhikangaon and Kasrawad. In 1963 the epidemic had its sway in a virulent form affecting as many as 115 villages in the District from where 1,320 attacks and 455 deaths were reported. The next period of its occurrence was in 1938 when Khargone, Kasrawad and Bhikangaon were the worst affected places.

The District was badly affected by cholera in 1943 and 1945, the visitation in the latter year being in the wake of the Sinhasth fair at Ujjain. It was also prevalent in 1948-49 and 1949-50. In the subsequent years, cholera was prevalent in an epidemic form, particularly in 1953 when there were 583 seizures and 392 deaths. It spread again in 1957 and 1958, but not in as serious a form as that of 1953.

The visitation of 1957 was mainly confined to Khargone town while that of 1958 was more or less localised in the Bhikangaon Tahsil. Since 1960, the disease has not been reported.

Preventive measures include inoculation, disinfection of wells and other sources of water-supply, isolation and treatment of patients, etc. Precautionary measures such as, distribution of drugs and disinfectants, sulpha-guanidine tablets, potassium permanganate, bleaching powder, etc., are also being carried out in the District. In addition, Emergency Cholera Regulations are enforced as and when required.

Diarrhoea and Dysentery

The other two diseases currently most prevalent in the District are diarrhoea and dysentery which generally occur in the rainy season. The District being a predominantly tribal area, the people are very backward and their mode of living is very unhygienic and insanitary. The Table below shows the number of patients treated in the District for dysentery and diarrhoea each year from 1959 to 1964.—

Year	Dysentery	Diarrhoea
1959	17,782	19,936
1960	11,594	39,210
1961	17,590	44,350
1962	13,077	30,119
1963	17,569	11,210
1964	17,151	26,200

Apart from the distribution of medicines through the Mobile Unit, public health measures are being intensified to control these diseases. These measures include regular chlorination of wells, education on public health, improvement of rural sanitation and water-supply through construction of sanitary wells, latrines, compost-pits, etc.

Small-Pox

The notable periods in which small-pox was prevalent in the former Barwani State were the years 1867-68, 1877-78, 1880-81 and 1898-99. Small-pox raged in a severe form in 1877-78 when hundreds of those attacked died. In 1880-81 it was virulent from the beginning of February to the end of March and caused a loss of about two hundred lives. There is evidence to show that vaccination was used as a preventive measure against small-pox as far back as in 1865-66. Two vaccinators were maintained by the State, one at Barwani and the other at Pansemal. In the beginning, people were indifferent towards this measure on the plea that it affected their religious sanctity. But those prejudices did not last long and vaccination gradually became more and more popular. Consequently, the number of children vaccinated rose from 524 in 1881 to 2,812 in 1901. Small-pox appeared at times in this Century also and the noteworthy period of its visitation were in 1939-40 and 1944-45 when it broke out in an epidemic form in almost all the *parganas* of the State, taking a heavy toll of lives.

The earliest available information about the appearance of small-pox in the Nimar District of the former Holkar State is of 1905 when it occurred in an epidemic form at Sanawad and Barwaha. The next important period was in 1930 when cases of small-pox were reported from the *parganas* of Kasrawad, Bhikangaon, Sendhwa, Warla, Barwaha and Maheshwar, the last two *parganas* having suffered most. Yet another notable period of its prevalence was in 1940 when it affected particularly the *parganas* of Sendhwa, Bhikangaon and Barwaha.

In the new State of Madhya Bharat, in 1956 there were 605 seizures and 126 deaths on account of small-pox as against 38 seizures and four deaths in 1950. Similar figures for the following years are tabulated below.—

Year	Seizures	Deaths
1957	972	168
1958	256	65
1959	43	5
1960	Nil	Nil
1961	416	91
1962	1,273	213
1963	143	17
1964	32	4

In the epidemic of 1952, the highest infection was reported from the Barwani Circle where there were 416 seizures and 140 deaths.

To stamp out the disease, vaccination campaign was launched in rural and urban areas of the District in the middle of the last Century. This work was intensified during the Plan periods and in 1961-62, 21 vaccinators were employed in the District. These vaccinators carried out vaccination from October to

March every year in conjunction with the Sanitary Inspectors. The *vaidyas* and midwives also assisted them in this work.

The Table below gives figures of vaccination (primary and re-vaccination) carried out in the District each year from 1952-53 to 1964-65.—

Year	Primary	Revaccination	Secondary
1952-53	23,203	4,594	165
1953-54	27,213	3,155	150
1954-55	25,109	6,276	25
1955-56	34,151	3,322	180
1956-57	20,861	11,236	—
1957-58	34,520	3,682	—
1958-59	30,715	17,431	—
1959-60	20,719	4,258	—
1960-61	26,758	7,727	10
1961-62	7,926	42,278	—
1962-63	39,611	1,89,539	N.A.
1963-64	47,188	5,21,422	N.A.
1964-65	14,021	12.193	N.A.

As the year 1962-63 was expected to be a cyclic year and a severe epidemic of small-pox was forecast, an intensive mass vaccination drive was launched in the District from May, 1962. Vaccination under this drive was carried up to the end of September, 1962 and from October 1962 the National Small-Pox Eradication Programme was launched in the District. Under this Programme the District was included in the Indore Unit with headquarters at Barwani, the Unit in the first phase comprising the Districts of West Nimar and East Nimar. It was staffed by one Supervising Medical Officer, One Para-Medical Officer, two Health Educators, 12 Sanitary Inspectors, 12 Enumerators and 60 vaccinators. The work of this Unit was supervised by the respective Civil Surgeons and Additional Civil Surgeons. During the period from 1st October, 1962 to 30th September, 1963, a total of 8,08,252 vaccinations—76,111 primary vaccinations and 7,32,141 re-vaccinations were given, which covered 81.5 per cent population of the District.

Since this Unit had covered more than 80 per cent of the population in West Nimar District, its headquarters were transferred to Indore for covering the remaining areas in the second phase of the scheme.

Plague

Plague made its first appearance in the erstwhile Barwani State at Khetia in August, 1904. Subsequently, it spread to the adjoining villages and the number of seizures during this period was 202, of whom 172 proved fatal. The average mortality from plague on this occasion was six per cent of the population. The anti-plague inoculation then started had to face initial difficulties and only 83 persons could be inoculated.

Plague re-appeared in the following year at Morgun in the Rajpur *pargana* in December, 1905 and continued till the middle of February, 1906. From Morgun it spread to Rajpur and thence to the villages of Rehetia, Limbai and Kharkal. The total number of seizures and deaths from this epidemic during this period was 94 and 77, respectively.

The next period of its occurrence was in 1911-12 when it broke out at Khetia and other surrounding villages. The anti-plague measures resorted to on this occasion included disinfection, evacuation, segregation and inoculation. Seizures and deaths therefrom numbered 182 and 125, respectively, this time. It, however, made its reappearance in 1912-13, 1916-17 and 1917-18 every time scoring a sizeable number of deaths. Its recurrence in Barwani State has not been reported since then.

Of the areas covered by the former Indore State, Kasrawad was the first to have an attack of plague in 1902-03 and it later spread to other places. Its second out-break was in 1903-04 when Barwaha, Kasrawad and Sanawad were greatly affected. Khargone and Mandleshwar were in severe grip of plague twice in 1906. The number of seizures at these places was 131 and 442 and that of deaths 102 and 377, respectively. Plague broke out again in Nimar District in 1912, but the death-toll was not heavy. The District can be said to have enjoyed complete freedom from plague since then.

Influenza

The Great Influenza epidemic of 1918-19 swept the entire State of Barwani also where it appeared in September, 1918, in a very virulent form and lasted for two months. There were, in all, 28,000 attacks and 4,420 deaths. The second wave of influenza occurred in the then Satpura Division of the State in December, 1918, and January, 1919, when it attacked 3,260 persons of whom 532 died.

This epidemic also enveloped the then Nimar District where it claimed many lives. Temporary dispensaries were opened at various places under qualified doctors to prevent it from spreading further. Influenza appeared again in a mild form in 1928, 1929, 1930, 1931 and 1932 in Nimar District and in 1939-40 in Barwani State. The year 1957, however, witnessed this scourge in an epidemic form in the District. There were 10,524 cases of attack but on account of effective and timely measures, only one case proved fatal.

Expenditure on Medical and Public Health Services

The annual expenditure on medical and public health services in the District steadily rose from Rs. 1,74,222 in 1950-51 to Rs. 7,51,985 in 1957-58. So also the per capita expenditure increased from Re. 0.23 in 1950-51 to Re. 0.87 in 1957-58. Similar figures for the years 1958-59 to 1963-64 are presented below.—

Year	Annual Expenditure	Per Capita Expenditure	
	Rs.	Rs.	P.
1958-59	8,12,177	1	06
1959-60	8,89,433	1	13
1960-61	10,13,132	1	02
1961-62	13,63,701	1	37
1962-63	14,07,602	1	42
1963-64	15,07,427	1	52

The table will show that there has been a phenomenal rise in the expenditure on medical and public health activities in the District since the inauguration of the era of development and planning. The expenditure figures further went up to Rs. 16,89,604.14 in 1965-66, Rs. 18,83,457.20 in 1966-67 and Rs. 26,95,028.66 in 1967-68.

VITAL STATISTICS

Although an attempt was made to maintain vital statistics in Barwani State before the beginning of this Century, the results were not quite satisfactory. Arrangements were, therefore, made in 1904-05 to have monthly returns submitted by *pargana* officers to admit of their being checked from time to time.

A small beginning in the maintenance of vital statistics was made in Indore State in the last quarter of the nineteenth Century when, following the census operations of 1881, certain general statistics were required to be collected. These statistics included figures for births and deaths which were recorded village-wise in the Chaukidar's Hand-Book by the Police Stations. The figures for the rural areas compiled by the police authorities were, however, unreliable for want of rules regarding compulsory registration, illiteracy of the Chaukidars, etc. In the urban areas such figures were maintained by the municipalities under the Indore Municipalities Act of 1914 on the basis of information given by local *dais*, sweepers and *darogas*. These figures were also considered unreliable This state of affairs led the Government of Holkar State to pass in 1928 an enactment called the Rules for the Registration of Vital Statistics in the District Municipalities. Although with the coming into force of these Rules some improvement was noticed, the vital statistics were still considered of a doubtful value, one of the reasons being that, whereas almost every death was recorded, births took place without being reported.

In Madhya Bharat, legislative measures were undertaken to set matters right in this direction. The Municipalities and Gram Panchayats were empowered under the Municipal Act and the Gram Panchayats Act, respectively, to impose fines in the matter of vital statistics.

Under the existing arrangement the village Chaukidar reports cases of births and deaths to the nearby Police Station from where reports are sent to the Superintendent of Police who, in turn, compiles and sends them to the Director

of Health Services. The Chaukidar is also expected to inform the Gram Panchayat from where the information is sent to the Civil Surgeon. The staff of the primary health centres including the sanitary Inspectors, vaccinators and midwives and other extension officers of the Development Blocks are required to check the register of vital statistics while on tour.

The Table below gives the number of births and deaths, along with their rates per 1,000 population, in the District for each year from 1958 to 1963:

Year	Births	Average Rate per Mille	Deaths	Average Rate per Mille
1958	1,986	2.00	772	0.77
1959	3,009	3.03	562	0.56
1960	2,164	2.18	416	0.40
1961	6,633	6.69	2,302	2.30
1962	1,964	1.98	605	0.67
1963	8,112	0.82	4,273	0.43

Some idea about the state of infant mortality in the District can be had from the following Table.

Year	Live Births	Deaths	Deaths Under One Year	Mortality Rate per Mille
1957	2,082	635	185	0.64
1958	1,986	772	196	0.77
1959	3,009	562	141	0.56
1960	2,164	416	121	0.40
1961	6,633	2,302	549	2.30
1962	577	94	57	0.14
1963	8,112	4,273	522	3.10

CHAPTER XVII

OTHER SOCIAL SERVICES

Labour Welfare

Prior to the year 1948, major part of the area, now included in the District of West Nimar, belonged to the princely States of Indore and Barwani. It would, therefore, prove useful to trace the history of welfare measures adopted by the Governments of these States and applied to the labours residing in the territories of this District.

Legislative Measures

(i) Under princely regime

Nimar District of Indore State, and Barwani State[1] witnessed the begining of seasonal machine industries like cotton ginning and pressing factories during the concluding years of the last Century and early years of this Century. Then the Governments concerned adopted certain legislative measures to ensure safety from accidents, death, etc., of the labourers employed in those factories. The Governments of both the States made[2] applicable since 1904-05, the Factory Act, adopted from the Factory Act of the then British India. From the year 1906-07, the Boilers Inspection[3] Act, (No 1 of 1906) also adopted from the British India Act, was made applicable to the territories of both the States.

In subsequent period, new legislations[4] and rules thereunder, for the Welfare of Labourers of Nimar also came into force.

For the agricultural labourer no legislative measures of welfare were adopted. But in times of draught, Government used to provide them work by starting relief works. Food *taccavis* were also given to them.[5] In respect of other labourers, employed in shops and other establishments, the Government passed the Indore Shops and Establishment Act, 1943 (No. VI of 1943).[6] The Barwani State Council, by Resolution No. 52, dated the 20th August, 1932, and No. 67, dated the 28th September, 1936, abolished the system of *begar* or compulsory labour which was in vogue in the State.[7] Further, under Resolution No. 32,

1. Barwani State Administration Report, 1902-03, p. 5; 1903-04, p. 14; 1904-05, p. 13.
2. Ibid., 1904-05, Appendix II; Holkar State Administration Report, 1904-05, Appendix I.
3. Ibid., 1906-07, Appendix I.
4. Ibid., 1945, p. 76.
5. Ibid., 1940, p. 12.
6. Ibid., 1943, p. 7.
7. Minority Administration Report of Barwani State, 1930-39, pp. 28 and 44.

dated the 20th April, 1936; the State Council prohibited altogether all forms of compulsory paid labour, except in the circumstances of emergency, urgency and great necessity in the interests of larger community.[1] All the Acts and Rules, made thereunder, remained in force till the formation of Madhya Bharat State in 1948. At the close of the princely regime over the Indore State of which Nimar was one of the districts, the Indore Industrial Relation Act of 1948[2] was on the Statue Book.

Administration of Labour Laws

The work of administration of Labour Acts then rested with the Department of Commerce and Industries.[3] The post of Inspector of Mills and Factories was created and he paid surprise visits to detect breaches of the Factory Act of the Holkar State[4] and advised factory-owners how to avoid accidents, etc. Under the Factories Act, *Subha* or Collector was ex-officio Inspector.[5] A post of Boiler Inspector was also attached to the same department and Barwani State Government also enstrusted the work of boiler inspection of its area to the Boiler Inspector of the Holkar State[6]. Subsequently, when the Indore Trade Union Act (V of 1939) was passed, Factories Inspector had also became Registrar of Trade Unions.[7] Till the formation of Madhya Bharat, Director of Industries remained responsible for the administration of most of the Labour Act and Rules.[8]

(ii) Legislative Measures in Madhya Bharat

When Madhya Bharat with Nimar as one of its districts was formed, the Government of the State announced a common Labour policy for whole of the State on the 18th of August, 1948.

Labour Ordinances

Accordingly, properly organised arrangements for labour welfare work were made. 'The decision to introduce uniform labour lagislations was implemented forthwith by the adoption of nine important labour laws by means of Ordinances.'

These and other laws were made applicable from time to time for the labour welfare by the Government of Madhya Bharat.

1. Ibid., p. 45.
2. Madhya Bharat Administration Report, 1948-49, p. 239.
3. Holkar State Administration Report, 1921, pp. 18 and 21; 1930, p. 41; 1939, pp. 61-62.
4. Ibid., 1935, p. 35.
5. Ibid.
6. Barwani State Administration Report, 1906-07, p. 11.
7. Holkar State Administration Report, 1939, p. 60.
8. Ibid., 1945, p. 76.

Organisation of Labour Department

Labour Commissioner was the Head[1] of the Department and was assisted by Deputy Commissioner for Labour, Assistant Commissioner for Labour, Divisional Labour Officers, Assistant Labour Officers and others. At Secretariat level, Labour Department was also the charge of the Secretary, Commerce and Industry.[2] From 1951-52 the Labour Department was transferred to the administrative control of the Development Secretary.[3] The Inspectorate of Factories and that of Boilers functioned as separate branches of this Department.[4] The Payment of Wages Inspector, who worked under the administrative control of the Chief Inspector of Factories, inspected factories.[5]

Administration of Labour Laws

Since the enforcement of the Indian Factories Act of 1948 in Madhya Bharat, hours of work in factories began to be[6] regulated by that Act from 1st April, 1949. Rules under the Act came in force from August,[7] 1951. Under the Minimum Wages Act, rates of wages for workers in *dal* mills, rice mills, flour mills and stone-crushing plants[8] were fixed. Proposals for fixing minimum wages for *bidi*—making industry and in agriculture and municipal service were, in 1954, under consideration. Under the Bombay Industrial Relations Act, as adopted in Madhya Bharat, Labour Court for this region too was constituted and located at Indore.[9] The administration of the Workmens' Compensation Act and the Payment of Wages Act was also entrusted to the Labour Court and the Deputy Commissioner of Labour became the co-ordinating authority under both the above-mentioned Acts, with exclusive jurisdiction over railway lands.[10]

The Madhya Bharat Industrial Relations (Adaptation) Act, which became operative in 1948, was applicable to the industries mentioned below.—

(1) Oil,
(2) Textile and Hosiery,
(3) Sugar and
(4) Engineering and metals.

The Registrar was in administrative charge of the Act.[11] Under the same Act the Assistant Labour Commissioner performed the duties also of the Regis-

1. Madhya Bharat Administration Report, 1948-49, p. 14.
2. Ibid., p. 13.
3. Ibid., 1950-51, p. 36; 1951-52, p. 72.
4. Ibid., 1953-54, pp. 63-64.
5. Ibid., 1951-52. p 78.
6. Ibid., 1948-49, p. 134.
7. Ibid., 1951-52, p. 74.
8. Madhya Bharat 1954, Labour Welfare section.
9. Madhya Bharat Administration Report, 1949-50, p. 9ᶜ.
10. Ibid.
11. Ibid., 1951-52, p. 75.

trar of Trade Unions.[1] The industrial Court, with one Senior Member as President and one member-judge, functioned at Indore under Bombay Industrial Relations Act till October, 1953. Thereafter, the Industrial Court functioned as one-member court. This court discharged the functions of Commissioner under the Workmens' Compensation Act.

Legislative Labour Welfare Measures in West Nimar of Madhya Pradesh

Welfare Measures for Employment in Agriculture

Economy of the District is predominantly agricultural and as such the District contains much greater number of agricultural labourers than that engaged in industries. For the welfare of employment in agriculture, the Madhya Pradesh Minimum Wages Fixation Ordinance, 1962 (No. 4 of 1962), was promulgated by the Governor of the State of Madhya Pradesh. It was effected with a view to fixing the minimum rates of wages in certain Scheduled Employments, including employment in agriculture. When the Madhya Pradesh Minimum Wages Fixation Act of 1962 (No. 16 of 1962) was passed the said Ordinance was repealed. Like the Ordinance this Act too came into executive operation from 1st January, 1959. Thus minimum rates of wages, in respect of employment in agriculture (Scheduled Employment, No. 1, part II) were fixed as shown below. The whole of the State of Madhya Pradesh is divided into three zones for the purpose of enforcing these minimum rates of wages, and all the places of the District are included in zone[2] II and zone III.

Class of Employees	Zone II	Zone III
Casual Employees	Rs.	Rs.
1. Adult Male	1.15 per day	0.90 per day
2. Adult Female	0.90 per day	0.75 per day
3. Adult Employees on a monthly contract (for a month or more)	25.00 per month	20.00 per month

Zone II comprises all places included within municipal limits of a municipality or a notified area with a population of 5,000 and above but below 50,000 and the places within five miles from the limits of such municipality or notified area. Zone III comprises all places not included in Zones I and II. The Act further fixed the minimum rates of wages payable to a child at 50 per cent of the minimum rates of wages fixed for adults. Madhya Pradesh Government has on 25th November, 1965, appointed a Committee to hold enquiries and advise it in the matter of revision of these minimum rates of wages.[3]

1. Ibid., 1953-54, pp. 63-64.
2. Zone I comprises the areas included within the municipal limits of a corporation or a municipality with a population of 50,000 and above and the places within five miles from the limits of such corporation or municipality.
3. Madhya Pradesh Gazette, Part I, 24th December, 1965.

Tahsildars and/or/Naib Tahsildars have been notified as ex-officio Inspectors to look after the proper working of this Act in respect of agricultural labourers.

Employment in Scheduled Industries

For the purpose of guaranteeing welfare of labourers, employeed by the industrial concerns, the Government, at the Centre as well as in the State, have taken many speedy statutory measures and have made them applicable to the industrial concerns of the District as well, from time to time. Paragraphs below give working of some of the important Acts.

(I) Minimum Wages Act, 1948

The Minimum Wages Act, 1948 (XI of 1948) and Madhya Pradesh Minimum Wages Fixation Act, 1962 (No. 16 of 1962), which came into operation from 1st January, 1959, have fixed minimum rates of wages for certain scheduled Employments in the State. For this purpose, the State is classified into four areas, *viz*., A, B, C, and D. The places of the District are classed in B, C and D areas. The minimum rates of wages, for the employment in any rice mill, flour-mill or *dal*-mill (Scheduled Employment No. 2), or in any oil-mill (Scheduled Employment No. 5), or under any Local Authority (Scheduled Employment No. 6), or on construction or maintenance of roads or in building operations (Scheduled Employment No. 7), or in stone crushing (Scheduled Employment No. 8), are tabulated below.—

Category of Employees	In Khargone town including an area of two miles from municipal limits.	All other places having a population of 5,000 & above but below 50,000	All other places not included in columns 2 & 3	Basis Payment of Rates of Wages
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
1. Clerical	60.00	50.00	45.00	Per month
2. Skilled	3.20	3.00	2.75	Per day
3. Semi-skilled	2.50	2.25	2.00	Per day
unskilled				
1. Male	1.50	1.37	1.25	Per day
2. Female	1.25	1.12	1.00	Per day
3. Child	1.12	1.00	0.37	Per day

(ii) The minimum rates of wages in Employment in any tabacoo, (including) *bidi*-making manufactory (Scheduled Employment No. 6) are given below.—

	In Khargone and Sanawad Municipal area and five miles from Municipal limits			
1	2 B	3 C	4 D	5
1. Bidi-roller	1.56	1.50	1.44	Per 1,000 Bidis
2. Bidi Sorter and Checker	70.00	65.00	60.00	Per month
3. Bundle Wrapper and packer	60.00	55.00	50.00	Per month
4. Bhattiwala	45.00	40.00	35.00	Per month

(2) Factory Act, 1938

The Act requires the employer to provide various welfare facilities to his employees in respect of first-aid, canteen, rest, water, health, etc. The adminsistration of the Act is entrusted to the office of the Chief Inspector of Factories, Indore. Inspector of Factories of Indore periodically visits the factories of West Nimar for inspection purposes. The following Table given an idea of the working of the factories Act, in the District.—

Year	No. of working Factories	Average No. of workers employed	No. of Inspections	No. of Prosecutions	No. of convictions
1	2	3	4	5	6
1958	94	5,085	112	N.A.	N.A.
1959	111	4,887	220	19	16
1960	106	4,093	98	15	13
1961	107	4,150	88	—	—
1962	93	3,882	224	1	1
1963	103	5,020	282	2	1
1964	104	5,009	127	—	—

(3) Madhya Pradesh Shops and Establishments Act, 1958

Prior to 1961, the Act was being enforced by the Municipality of Khorgone, to which place alone the Act has been made applicable in the District. From 1961, the administration of the Act has been transferred to the Labour Department and its enforcement has been the charge of the office of the Labour Officer, Burhanpur, which has been provided with one Inspector. The Inspector periodically visits Khargone and inspects the proper administration of the Act. The Act regulates the working conditions of the employees in shops and commercial establishments, with regard to work, daily and weekly attendance, holidays, leave, over time work, its pay etc. The following statement shows the working of the Act.—

Year	No. of Shops and establishments inspcted	No. of Prosecution launched	No. of Convictions
1	2	3	4
1958	1,425	220	31
1959	1,273	84	12
1960	1,726	115	132
1961	543	148	131
1962	449	—	21

In the year 1964, out of 39 criminal cases received under the Act, 12 were disposed of and fine realised was Rs. 292. By the end of October, 1965, out of 67 such cases 49 were disposed of imposing a fine of Rs. 1,520.

(4) Workmen's Compensation Act

The Act has made it obligatory for the employer to pay a compensation to his employee, whose monthly wage does not exceed Rs. 400 and who has

been rendered unable or incapable to work due to injuries received by him while on duty, or to the employee, who has been suffering from occupational disease. If due to these reasons, death of an employee occurs, his dependents are to be paid compensation by the employer. The responsibility of the administration of this Act rests with the Assistant Labour Commissioner, who has been given the powers of Workmen's Compensation Commissioner, Labour Court, Indore. During 1954-55 and 1955-56 he disposed of four cases under this Act. The compensations of Rs. 3,270 were ordered, while the compensation amont was Rs. 8,537 in 6 cases disposed of during 1964 and 1965 upto 31st October.

(5) Industrial Relations Act

The Bombay Industrial Relations Act, as adopted in Madhya Bharat, was applicable to the oil industry of the District. The said Act was repealed by the Madhya Pradesh Industiial Relations Act, 1960, with effect from 31st December, 1960. The Act is applicable to the newly started Cotton Spinning Mills (Sanawad) of the District, which employes more than 100 employees. Under the former Act, Labour Judiciary was established in Madhya Bharat with Indore as one of the seats of Labour Court. The District, since then, falls within the area of jurisdiction of the Labour Court, Indore.

(6) Madhya Pradesh Maternity Benefit Act, 1958

Madhya Pradesh Maternity Benefit Act, 1958, ensures payment of cash maternity benefits to employees in the factories for certain periods before and after confinement. Nine months service preceding the date of notice is a qualifying conditions for the receipt of such benefits. The administration of the Act is entrusted to the office of the Chief Inspector of Factories, Indore.

(7) Employees' Provident Fund Act, 1952

When old age or illness renders industrial workers unfit for earning a living, they are forced to lead a life of object poverty and dependence. In the event of workers' premature death their depedents are left destitute. The Employees' Provident Funds Act, 1952, one of the chief measures of social security, created a scheme of the Employees' Provident Fund to ameliorate the workers' condition. The Act applies to all establishments in the listed industries if (i) they employ 20 or more but less than 50 and (ii) have existed for five years or more, and three years if they have 50 and more employees. The Act has been extended to 17 industrial concerns including oil-mills, ginning and pressing factories, Government distillery, motor transport company, etc., of the District. At the end of 1964-65, the number of workers enjoying the benefit of the Scheme was 265, as against 66 by the end of August, 1962.

The members of the fund and the employees too have to contribute every month six and a quarter per cent of pay. The statutory rate of contribution was enhanced during 1962-63 to eight per cent of pay in respect of establishments employing 50 or more persons engaged in four industries. Since 1964-65, the

enhanced rate has been made applicable to 32 classes of establishments. Under the Scheme following benefits are given to the member whose basic pay does not exceed Rs. 1,000 per month.

(i) Non-refundable advances for insurance policy, housing, purchasing shares of consumers' co-operative societies, temporary closure of an establishment and unemployment relief.

(2) Besides this fund, a Special Reserve Fund and a Death Relief Fund are also created for the benefit of the workers.

The Act s administered by a Tripartite Board. The Central Provident Fund Commissioner, who is the Chief Executive Officer of the Board, is assisted by a Regional Provident Fund Commissioner, Madhya Pradesh, Indore.

(8) The Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926

The Act became operative in the District in the year 1948. Under the provisions of the Act the trade unions of employers and employees are organised and registered, from time to time in order to foster the legitimate interests. Labour Commissioner is the Registrar of Trade Unions.

Till December, 1965, the number of trade unions, registered under the Act in the District, was 10, but all were not wedded exclusively with the Labour Welfare in true sense of the term However, majority of them were devoted strictly to the Labour Welfare. The names of unions are given below.—

(1) Bidi Kamgar Sangh, Khargone.
(2) Bidi Kamgar Sangh, Sanawad.
(3) Nagar Palika Karmachari Sangh, Kasrawad.
(4) Krishi Upaj Mandi Kamgar Sangh, Khargone.
(5) Krishi Upaj Mandi Dalal Mandal, Sendhwa.
(6) Soot Mill Mazdoor Sangh, Sanawad.
(7) Shaskiya Soot Mill Karmachari Union, Sanawad.
(8) Madhya Pradesh Motor Karmachari Sangh, Khargone.
(9) Municipal Kamgar Sangh, Khargone.
(10) Nagar Palika Nakedar Evam Karmachari Sangh, Anjar, Barwani.

(2) Labour Welfare Measures Undertaken by Labour Unions

(1) Bidi Kamgar Sangh, Khargone

The Union was established and registered in 1956. It has been affiliated to the Indian National Trade Union Congress, Madhya Pradesh Branch, Indore. The strength of members is 103. The union started in 1963 the *Anaja* and *Kirana* Co-operative (unregistered) Store for the benefit of labourers.

Labour Welfare Centre

With a view to taking advantage of the State Government sponsored scheme of establishing Labour Welfare Centres, the Sangh organised Labour Welfare Centre, by 1961 end. It started night adult classes, radio centre, reading-room and games for the welfare of the members. The Centre receives annual grant-in-aid from the Labour Department. During the years 1962-63 to 1965-66, the Centre received grant-in-aid to the tune of about Rs. 4,900.

(ii) Bidi Kamgar Sangh, Sanawad

The Union was organised and registered in 1965. It is affiliated to the Indian National Trade Union Congress, Madhya Pradesh Branch, Indore. Its strength of members is 212. The Union has succeeded in starting a co-operative society for running its own Co-operative *Bidi* Factory in 1962-63. It has also organised consumers' co-operative society, and it also gives loan to its members when they need.

Labour Welfare Centre

The Union, with the aid of the State Government, has started a Labour Welfare Centre from 26th January, 1957. Every year the Centre receives grant-in-aid to the tune of about Rs. 2,000. The Centre started adult classes, radio-centre, reading-room, library, indoor and outdoor games. The centre also organised child-health and games competitions, debates, *Kavi Sammelan*, National Day celebrations, social gathering, etc. The scheme of running adult classes was replaced by that of tailoring classes, attended by 25 persons, in 1963-64. On an average about 50 persons daily take advantage of the Centre.

(iii) Government Distillery Mazdoor Sangh, Barwah

The Sangh was organised in 1958 and it was registered in 1959. Its strength of members was 80 and it was affiliated to the Indian National Trade Union Congress, Madhya Pradesh Branch, Indore. It was through the organised efforts of the Sangh that the monthly pay of distillery labourers gradually increased. The workers also received a bonus to the tune of pay of one month and five days. The Union tried to stop the system of retrenchment of workers in slack seasons, formerly adopted by the distillery management. The Union was not registered in the year 1965.

Labour Welfare Centre

The Sangh organised the Centre in 1959. It began to receive grant-in-aid from the Labour Department to the tune of Rs. 350 from the year 1960. The Centre conducted an adult education class in 1961-62. It started also outdoor games. About 30 members daily took advantage of the Centre.

Besides these, other Trade Unions of the District, which are mostly registered in recent years, are functioning in the District. No Labour Welfare Centre is run by any of them.

Administration of various Labour Laws in the District is done by the Labour Officer, Burhanpur, who is assisted by three Labour Sub-Inspectors as the District is included in the Labour Sub-Division, Burhanpur.

Judicial Set-up for the Enforcement of Labour Laws in the District

Besides an Industrial Court and Industrial Tribunal, both at Indore, having jurisdiction over the whole State of Madhya Pradesh, there is a Labour Court constituted under the Madhya Pradesh Industrial Relations Act, 1960. The Presiding Officer of this Labour Court functions as the Commissioner for the workmen's compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Act 1926, as Authority under the Payment of Wages Act, 1936 and Minimum Wages Act, 1948. He has also been invested with powers of the Magistrate First Class for the trial of criminal cases originating from a few other Labour Acts.

From May, 1965, an Additional Labour Court, with its headquarters at Jabalpur to deal with cases pertaining to State sphere and Central sphere under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, is functioning. Its jurisdiction extends over the whole State of Madhya Pradesh.

PROHIBITION

Prohibition laws have never been made applicable to the regions now constituting the District, either during the period, when they were the parts of princely states, or when they constituted the District of Madhya Bharat, or now, when they are in the District of West Nimar, of Madhya Pradesh, except Kanpur-Bedia tract of 95 square miles, which till 1950, formed part of East Nimar and was dry area from the year 1948.

In Nimar District of Indore State

(i) Government Policy

Probably since the days of Non-Co-Operation Movement in 1921, the Indore State Government adopted a policy of discouraging consumption of excise goods by the people. It was stated, that the Government had no desire, 'to derive revenue from drink to the detriment of public weal'. It also desired 'to make it increasingly difficult for the consumer to obtain drink'.

In order to bring this policy into practice, efforts were made to restrict the consumption of the goods coming under excise. To achieve this end, the policy of reducing the number of shops for the sale of country spirit and drugs was adopted since 1926 and 1927. Liquor duties were also raised and some other restrictive measures were introduced. Every attempt was made to minimise temptation for those, who did not drink and to discourage excess among those, who were addicts. A duty of Rs. three per maund was later on imposed on all *mahua*, imported into Sendhwa,[1] Bhikangaon and Brahmangaon *Parganas* of the

1. Holkar State Administration Report, 1927, pp. 52-53.
2. Ibid., 1928, p. 58.
3. Ibid., 1929, p. 44.

District. While reviewing the effects of these measures at a later date, it was stated, that these "effectively advanced the cause of temperance among the drinking classess." In spite of this, it was admitted, that 'drink bill of the State was undesirably large', which meant that much more remained to be done and the question, it was added, was engaging Darbar's earnest attention[1]. In 1931 the Government again enhanced the duties on all hemp drugs.

Anti-Liquor or Temperance Movement

Anti-Liquor or temperance movement was possibly originated in the District with the inception of Non-Co-Operation Movement[2] of 1921. The movement caused abnormal fall in the consumption of excise goods. The movement was so intense that bidders of excise articles hesitated to take part in auction. Subsequent years witnessed the waning[3] of agitation, started in favour of abstinance from the use of alcoholic liquor. The illicit distillation alarmingly increased in the District. Again, during the period of Civil Disobedience Movements of 1930 and 1932, Nimar exhibited very poor bids for excise and a few *parganas* of the District witnessed a stir[4] of the total abstinence movement, which was short-lived. It appears that in sympathy with the political and social propaganda, temperance or anti-drink movements were started in the District but they subsided with political movements themselves, without making any real headway. In 1940, the Government stated, "Generally, public opinion is in favour of temperance and therefore, any proposal for restricting the use of intoxicants is widely approved". But the addict were there. The Government further laid emphasis on organising proper and wider temperance movement to be conducted by selfless people, who should be actuated by a missionary spirit[5].

The Harijan Organisers in Nimar District after 1938, carried on propaganda in favour of temperance and thrift[6]. Many of the Harijans of 19 villages of Nimar District had renounced the habit of liquor drinking, during the period 1940-46. In order to obtain more success in this direction, efforts were made in six of the villages of Khargone *Mahal* to organise Better Living Societies so as to enable them to form habit of thrift and leave off drinking habit for ever.

In Nimar of Madhya Bharat

After the formation of Madhya Bharat State, excise matters of the District were regulated by various Act, Rules and Ordinances.

Prohibition Policy of the Government

In principle, Madhya Bharat Government was committed[7] to total prohibition of all intoxicants, but in practice, it followed a cautious policy of

1. Ibid., 1931, pp. 34-35.
2. Ibid., 1921, pp. 21 and 26; 1922, p. 17.
3. Ibid., 1923, p 27.
4. Ibid., 1931, p. 35.
5. Ibid., 1940, p. 69.
6. Harijan work in Holkar State, 1940-46, p. 20.
7. Madhya Bharat, 1954, Prohibition Section.

implementing the prohibition gradually by stages. It pursued the policy of discouraging the use of intoxicants by the people. With this end in view, the Government of Madhya Bharat adopted following measures.

1. The number of shops, selling liquor or other intoxicants was gradually reduced.
2. Selling rates of all intoxicants and excise duty on them were increased.
3. As per Government order, the shops of all intoxicants were required to be closed on days of national importance and religious festivals.
4. *Jagirdars*, who had a free hand in respect of the contracts of excise matters in their *Jagir* areas, lost their freedom with regard to excise[1] administration and the *Jagir* areas were brought under the control of Excise Department for regulating excise articles.
5. With a view to discouraging opium consumption, the policy of reduction of quota to the District was adopted and its retail price was increased.[2]

Temperance Movement

The Government sanctioned Rs. 5,000 in 1952-53 for furthering temperance movement in Madhya Bharat. Of this amount Rs. 3,000 were paid to non-official institutions engaged in the movement.

In West Nimar of Madhya Pradesh

Government Policy

The Government of Madhya Pradesh has made no change in its policy in respect of West Nimar as regards prohibition. It adhered to the policy adopted by the Government of Madhya Bharat. In furtherance of the policy of discouraging people more in respect of consumption of intoxicants following measures remain in force.

(1) Powers of country liquor (*dubara*), which was 25° U.P. was made 35° U.P. from 1st April, 1957, in the first instance and further its strength has been made 45° U.P. from 1st April, 1959.

(2) The number of all excise shops, i.e., of liquor, *ganja* and *bhang*, has been successively reduced as would be clear from the figures quoted below:

Year	No. of shops of		
	Liquor	*Ganja*	*Bhang*
1958-59	142	54	54
1959-60	132	48	48
1960-61	131	43	43
1961-62	131	39	39
1962-63	130	39	39
1963-64	130	39	39
1964-65	130	40	40

1. *Aaj Ka Madhya Bharat*, December 1951, pp. 115-17.
2. Madhya Bharat Administration Report, 1951-52, p. 34.

(3) As regards opium, retail sale for general public has been totally prohibited. Addicts of Opium, whom a Government Medical Officer gives certificates to the effect that their life is in danger without opium consumption, are provided with permits, the number of which is decreasing. The number of such addicts and quantity of opium issued to them in recent years are shown below:

Year	No. of Addicts	Quantity of Opium issued
1959-60	172	11 Seers, 29 *tolas*
1960-61	43	2 Seers, 10 *tolas* 6 *mashas*
1961-62	7	514 grams
1962-63	8	521 grams
1963-64	7	462 grams
1964-65	5	399 grams

(4) On days of national importance and religious festival, number of which is 24 in a year, all shops of intoxicants are required to be closed.

(5) Excise duty on country liquor has been gradually increased every year.

(6) Liquor shops of the District are located at such places as are not visited by people at large.

(7) No hotel or restaurant or lodge of the District has been issued a licence to sell liquor.

(8) In order to prevent misuse of denatured spirit, only six licences are issued in the District.

(9) Propaganda for the sale of liquor has been declared an offence under Excise Rules.

(10) Shops, selling liquor, *ganja* and *bhang*, are to be opened at 10 A.M. and closed at 9 P.M. as per order.

Temperance Movement

From the year 1956-57, Prohibition Week is celebrated in the District from 2nd October to explain people the harms and the disadvantages of liquor drinking through the media of playing drums and arranging meetings. Cinema-houses of the District exhibit slides explaining harmful nature of liquor.

ADVANCEMENT OF BACKWARD CLASSES AND TRIBES

(1) In Barwani State

(i) Education (1900-1948)

Barwani was quite a backward State inhabited predominantly by Backward Classes and Tribes like Bhils[1], Bhilalas, Harijans, etc. Out of the total popu-

1. Barwani State Administration Report, 1902-03, p. 13; 1912-13, p. 28.

lation of 1, 76,666 persons 1,05,367 were *Adiwasis* in 1941. In order to improve their lot, the Darbar decided to spend a fair proportion of revenue on their education. The number of primary schools, during the period under review, ranged from 23 to 50. During the first quarter of this Century, the number of scholars in these schools ranged from about 1,450 to 2,100[1]. Of these 151 to 1,000 belonged to the Backward Classes and Tribes. For higher education, High School was established at Barwani. Education was free and partly compulsory. Boys and girls of village schools and those belonging to Harijans and other Backward Classes and Tribes were supplied books, slates, etc., free of any charge. Some other special facilities were also provided to their guardians so as to induce and encourage them to send their wards to the school. About 10 night schools were also running for those, who could not attend in day time.

In the second quarter of the Century, the number of scholars ranged from 1,700 to 3,700.

The education continued to be free at all stages. Girls' education was given encouragement by introducing various scholarships[2] for girls studying different trades in schools. Boarding, lodging and other facilities were provided to a limited number of poor boys and orphans. Facilities given to students belonging to Backward Classes and Tribes also continued. Harijan[3] students were admitted in all State schools. All these measures helped to spread education among Backward Classes and Tribes and thus brought about their educational advancement to a certain extent. According to the Census of 1941, the total population of Barwani State was 1,76,666 of which 10,269 (8,630 males, 1693 females) i.e., 5.2 per cent were[4] literate. Harijans numbered 16,665 of whom 444 i.e., 2.5 per cent were literate.

(ii) Removal of Social Evils

Being educationally backward, people of the region were orthodox in respect of social and religious matters and this feature created many social evils or ruinous customs among them. With the object of securing social betterment, the Government introduced several[5] important legislative measures, without offending their prejudices, for the removal of old social evils. The following measures deserve mention.

(i) The Barwani State Nukta (Funeral Feasts) Restraint Act, 1937.

(2) The Barwani State Prohibition of Marriage Between Old Men And Minor Girls Act, 1937.

1. Ibid., 1902-03 to 1924-25, Section-Education.
2. Ibid., 1929-30 to 1938-39, p. 22.
3. Ibid., 1942-43 to 1944-45, p. 46.
4. *Madhya Bharat Ki Arthik Samiksha*, Quarterly, Vol. I, July-September 1948, pp. 38-39.
5. Barwani State Administration Report, 1929-30 to 1938-39, p. 29.

In addition to above, the following British Indian Social Enactments were bodily introduced in the State.[1]

1.	The Child Marriage Restraint Act,	1929
2.	The Special Marriage Act,	1872
3.	The Dissolution of Muslim Marriage Act,	1939
4.	The Hindu Women's Remarriage Act,	1856
5.	The Caste Disabilities Removal Act,	1859
6.	The Hindu Women's Right to Property Act,	1937

The President of the State Council issued an order for the removal of untouchability of Harijans. Public wells and all State Schools were thrown open for them.[2]

(iii) Economic and other Welfare

The economy of the State being agricultural, the Government looked after the all round welfare of the agriculturists and agricultural[3] labourers, of whom many were Bhils, Bhilalas and Harijans. In the year 1901-02, the State Government started agricultural banks in various *parganas*. Many of the cultivators contributed grain in these banks and the banks distributed it to the needy cultivators at sowing time on 20 percent interest, to be realised in kind at the time of harvest. The number of banks rose to 270 in 1903-04, as against 106 in 1901-02. In the year 1902-03, three State granaries were established for the benefit of cultivators. Nothing was heard in subsequent period about the fate of these two schemes. *Taccavi* was also liberally given[4] to the cultivators. The Government every year constructed and repaired wells, tanks, bunds, anicuts and canals for the purpose of irrigating lands. This resulted in an increase in irrigated land in the State. The acreage of irrigated land in 1929-30 was 2,876, while[5] it rose to 6,346 in 1938-39, as against 3,013 *bighas* in 1905-06. By the end of 1944-45, about 9,800[6] acres of land was under irrigation. Cotton markets at Anjar, Khetia and Pansemal were organised for securing fair prices for the produce of agriculturists, by the end of 1944-45.[7]

With a view to financing agriculture and trade, the Darbar started Barwani State Bank in 1914-15 and saved agriculturists and petty traders from the usurious money-lenders by advancing[8] loans at reasonable rate of interest, which decreased from 12 to 9 per cent in 1932 and 3 per cent in subsequent period.

1. Ibid., p. 17.
2. Ibid., pp. 45-46.
3. Ibid., 1902-03, p. 13.
4. Ibid., 1903-04, p. 5; 1929-30 to 1938-39, p. 28; 1942-43 to 1944-45, p. 12.
5. Ibid., 1929-30 to 1938-39, p. 15.
6. Ibid., 1942 to 1945, p. 11.
7. Ibid., p. 49.
8. Ibid., 1914-15, p. 29.

The Bank also advanced loans to Panchayati Galla Fund from which *taccavi* was distributed to cultivators.[1] In 1935, the State Council passed the Barwani State Agriculturists' Relief Act as an ameliorative measure for the peasantry. It is said that, within five years, the measure completely freed the cultivators of the State from heavy indebtedness and helped in improving their standard of living. Arrangements to supply improved[3] seeds, improved agricultural implements and selected stud-bulls were also made. The other measures beneficial to agriculturists included abolition[4] of or substantial reduction in several taxes such as *Zadui, Bazar baithak*, etc., export duty on cotton, food stuffs, bullocks, cows, sheep and import duty on fodder, fuel and timber. Similarly following concessions were given to the public in respect of the use of forest, free-grazing to cattle of agriculturists, free removal of head load of grass, fuel and charcoal, free removal of forest edible products like *mahua, achar*, etc., by the agriculturists, for their own use, and free removal of brambles, leaves (for thaching purposes), boulders, earth, sand, stones, etc. Weavers of the State were also helped by the State. As regards Harijans, many of them were employed during 1930-31, in State or Municipal services and their posts were made pensionable. Necessary steps, to provide Harijans and others drinking water-wells, were also taken. A committee of State officers and prominent public men, to help the Darbar in the work of uplift of Harijans was also appointed[5] during the fourth decade of the Century.

Adequate attention was constantly given to the construction and maintenance of roads for the benefit of rural population. As early as 1902-03, important places were linked either by the metalled or fair-weather roads, total length of which was then 56 and 176 miles,[6] respectively. Till the fourth decade of this Century, cheap and regular bus services were established through out the State.[7] During the years 1929-30 to 1944-45, about 170[8] miles of metalled and fair-weather roads were constructed. The number of post offices was increased to 13 by the year 1944-45 as against 7 in 1938-39.

In respect of medical aid, there were 8 dispensaries at various centres in 1904-05.[9] The number increased in later period and in 1938-39, there was a dispensary within ten miles of every village. Veterinary aid was also available to rural public from touring veterinary doctors.

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1. Ibid., 1929-30 to 1938-39, p. 30.
2. Ibid., p. 28.
3. Ibid., p. 29.
4. Ibid., pp. 99-100
5. Ibid., p. 8.
6. Ibid., 1902-03, p. 25.
7. Ibid., 1929-30 to 1938-39, p. 99.
8. Ibid., p. 28; 1942-43 to 1944-45, p. 39.
9. Ibid., 1904-05, p. 8.

(2) In Nimar District of Holkar State

According to the Census of 1931,[1] the District contained 38 and 14.5 per cent population of Primitive Tribes and Depressed Castes, respectively. The State Government took various measures for the advancement of Backward Classes[2] and Tribes of the State.

(I) Education

(1) It adopted a policy of encouraging education of these Classes and Tribes and awarded scholarships, free-studentships, special concessions and facilities to the students belonging to these communities.[3]

(2) It opened schools, primary and later on middle in all the *parganas* of the District. In 1927, the number of such schools was 56, including those of boys and girls. The number increased to 69 in 1929 and again to 88 in 1938. The increase was shared by *parganas* like Sendhwa, Segaon, Bhikangaon and Kasrawad, where Backward Classes and Tribes prominently resided. The people too requested the Government to establish more and more schools in their regions. The Government increased the number of schools to 115 by the year 1945.[4] The institutions like Village Panchayats,[5] District Rural Uplift-Board[6] Harijan Uplift Committees,[7] etc., were taking keen interest in the spread of education. In the District, many Harijan adults were enrolled in night schools. Entire vernacular and female education was free in the State.[8] A new scheme of 'Each One, Teach One' was launched on 26th February, 1940 and Adult Literary Day was observed.[9] In his historic proclamation of 1938, the Maharaja Holkar ordered that, "full and hearty effect be given to the existing orders relating to the unrestricted admission of Harijans to State educational institutions." This removed untouchability from school with the result that the number of Harijan boys and girls increased in the schools. The Government also ordered the exemption of the Harijan boys and girls from the payment of tution fees.[10] They were provided with books, slates and stationery articles free of charge by the *mahal* committees, organised to look after the Harijan uplift work in the District. Besides a few scholarships, which were awarded to Harijan students from the Educational uplift Fund, the Central Harijan Uplift Committee and the Government too annually provided money for the award of scholarships to the poor and deserving Harijan students.

1. Census of Central India 1931, Vol. XVI, Holkar State, Part I, p. 247.
2. These included Marathas, Dhangars. etc, also.
3. Holkar State Administration Report, 1926, p. 75; 1928, p. 50.
4. Ibid., 1943, Appendix XVIII.
5. Ibid, 1942, p. 137; 1943, p. 98.
6. Ibid., 1940, p. 102.
7. Harijan Work in Holkar State, 1940-46, pp. 2-3.
8. Holkar State Administration Report, 1945, p. 128.
9. Ibid., 1940, p 101.
10. Ibid., 1939, p. 34.

The committee also sanctioned financial help to Harijan students appearing at the Board and University examinations.

(ii) Removal of Social Evils

Backward Classes and Tribes of the District, leading rural life, had many ruinous social evils. In order to remove these evils, the Government, from time to time, passed social Laws, such as, Prevention of Nukta Act, Child Marriage Restraint Act. Marriage Expenses Controlling Act, etc.

Under some of these social Laws, the Government gave[1] certain powers to Village Panchayats in 1943, and the Panchayats tried to check social evils in their respective jurisdictions. The Maharaja Holkar by his proclamation had thrown open for Harijans the State temples, public wells, public places, public offices,[2] etc., and thus helped to remove the social disabilities of Harijans, whose number in Nimar was 59,329 in 1941. In *mahals* of Sendhwa and Khargone, all State wells were open to them. New 15 wells were also constructed for Harijans in many localities[3] by the Government and the Harijan Sewak Sangh, to remove the difficulty of drinking water, felt by Harijans. Municipality of Kasrawad repaired wells for the use of Harijans. In the *mahals* of Warla and Nandwai, Harijans' difficulty of water was completely removed. From 1939-40 to 1945-46, Rs. 61,988 were sanctioned by the State for the construction of 66 wells in the District of Nimar.

In many of the towns and villages, even the sweeper Harijans were allowed to use the facility of public places like hotels, flour-mills, etc. In Barwaha, Rampura, etc., Harijans had their houses in the town and in many places like Bhikangaon, Rampura etc., Caste Hindus rented their private buildings to Harijans. The Harijans were also allowed to join processions of Caste Hindus in places like Khargone, Barud, etc. In addition to these gestures of good-will, Harijan Day was observed on the 1st March, every year.[4]

The State Government also encouraged the Harijans to take more interest in matters of civic[5] affairs of their respective villages and towns. Elections and nominations of the Harijans on the village *Panchayats* and municipalities were encouraged by the Government. The post of Village Patels also were given to Harijans in some villages of the State.

(iii) Economic and Other Advancement

In order to improve the economic and other conditions of the Backward Classes and Tribes of the District, State Forest Department gave concessions[6] to

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1. Ibid., 1943, p. 98.
2. Harijan Work in Holkar State, 1940-46, p. 1.
3. Ibid., p. 9.
4. Ibid., 1940, p. 106.
5. Ibid., p. 22.
6. Holkar State Administration Report, 1908, p. 38.

them, such as free grant of honey, wax, gum, *mahua*, *achar*, other edible food roots, cart-loads of grass, for fodder and for sale, etc.

(2) When a new era of co-operation was ushered in, the Government tried after 1914, to organise more and more co-operative agricultural societies, the primary aim[1] of which was to extricate the agriculturists of the District from the ruinous system of the *Jod* and *Jalap*, which reduced the cultivators' profit to vanishing point[2] by providing them required help. Central co-operative societies were also organised in the District. Thus, 60 agricultural societies were organised in Nimar. These supplied cotton seed to the cultivators. In years 1927 and 1928 some 24 new societies were organised in the *pargana* of Bhikangaon. The *parganas* of Sanawad and Maheshwar had, respectively, 28[3] and 5 societies. Sanawad and Maheshwar had also the Central Co-operative Banks.

The Indore Premier Co-operative Bank financed these societies and banks. The former again organised new societies in the *parganas* of Kasrawad, Bhikangaon, Segaon, and Barwaha. The banks of the District also took keen interest in organising and financing the societies and supplying cotton seed to cultivators.[4] The Premier Co-operative Bank subsequently opened its branches at Bhikangaon, Segaon, Khargone,[5] and Sendhwa.[6] The co-operative movement thus brought about an improvement in the economic and social life of the agriculturists of this District within a short period.[7]

(3) In order to secure fair prices for the cotton, grown by the agriculturists, the Government gave an impetus to cotton market committees in this District. Prior to 1927, cotton market, first to be started in India, was formed at Sanawad.[8] Subsequently cotton markets were opened at Barwaha, Khargone, Mandleshwar, etc.

(4) District Uplift Board[9] was formed and the work of propagating village sanitation, preparation and storage of manure, marketing facilities and opening of Better Living Societies, etc., was entrusted to it. Seven villages were selected for opening Rural Uplift Centres in Nimar during 1940-42.[10]

(5) The Indore Premier Co-operative Bank and Sanawad Central Co-operative Bank organised *Adhat* shops at Sendhwa, Bhikangaon, Khargone,

1. Ibid., 1924, p. 44.
2. Ibid., 1928, p. 50.
3. Ibid., 1930, p. 40.
4. Ibid., 1935, p. 33.
5. Ibid., 1937, p. 38.
6. Ibid., 1927, p. 43.
7. Ibid.
8. Ibid., 1929, p. 42; 1928, p. 56.
9. Ibid., 1940, p. 17.
10. Ibid., 1941, p. 16; 1942, p. 15.

Barwaha and Sanawad, during the years 1939 and 1941 to arrange for sale of produce of cultivators, to secure fair prices for their produce and to reduce unfair charges in processes of marketing. A store section was also opened at Bhikangaon for supplying agricultural and domestic requirements to agriculturists.

(6) *Gaonthi Panchayats*,[1] established in 1909 and from which in later period emerged village *Panchayats*, continued to contribute the all round improvement of villages by the prevention and cure of infectious diseases and the provision of relief to the poor and sick. They also made vigorous efforts with the co-operation of Veterinary Department for improving the breed of cattle and preventing cattle diseases rendering active co-operation to the Rural Uplift Board and to the other departments engaged in the work of nation-building, to spread education, expand agriculture, enhance the cause of co-operative societies, construct *pucka* roads, wells, etc. Under a five year Plan for the establishment of *panchayats* in all villages in the year 1941, 115 new village *Panchayats* were established in the villages of Nimar District.[2]

(7) The Indore Central Co-operative Association took up the work of practical training of *panchas* and members of agricultural societies and did useful work in *parganas* of Segaon and Sendhwa. Rallies and union meetings were arranged in the tahsil of Barwaha. A large conference was held at Sendhwa in 1941 and useful propaganda, especially in regard to non-credit activities such as marketing of cotton, etc., was carried out.

(8) Poultry Demonstration Centre was opened at Sendhwa in 1941.

(9) A few Better Living Societies were organised in the villages of the District in 1941.

(10) *Ayurvedic* and Allopathic dispensaries, which existed prior to 1935, in the District, proved very useful; so[3] the Government gradually increased their number in the District. Increase in the number of Veterinary dispensaries also was noticed.[4]

(11) In 1943, "Government sanctioned grants from the Development Fund to the tune of Rs. 50,000 for the project for the demonstration and introduction of agricultural implements in the Bhil-tracts of Nimar, agricultural-shows, improvement of Nimar cattle and establishment of small demonstration farms, in all parts of the State.

(12) Besides social laws already mentioned in this section, Usurious Loans Act, the Money Lenders Act, the Debt Conciliation Act and the Restitu-

1. Ibid., 1945, pp. 157-60.
2. Ibid., 1942, pp. 60-61.
3. Ibid., 1935, p. 53.
4. Ibid., 1944. p. 57.

tion of Pattedar Tenants' Mortgaged Lands Act of 1941, all aiming at reducing the indebtedness of the agriculturists, were in force.[1]

Though all these efforts improved the social, moral, mental and economic conditions of the tenantry in general,[2] extreme poverty of aboriginal people like Bhils, and others was not totally removed and the Maharaja appointed a committee to make enquiries into the causes of their poverty to suggest means to remove it. The committee continued its deliberations from 1942.[3] During the period of draught in Nimar, agricultural labourers including those belonging to Backward Classes and Scheduled Tribes were provided with relief works, food, etc.[4] Harijan landless labourers of the District received during the years 1940-46, 534.41 acres of land from the Revenue Department for cultivation. There was no more land available in the District for more allotment.[5] Maharaja also ordered in 1938, that there should be no restrictions on Harijans to get services in Government offices, and subsequently more and more Harijans received employment.

The system of giving advances to weavers of the District, specially localised or centred at Maheshwar, was introduced in the year 1901,[6] in order to prevent deterioration of the indigenous cloth industry of Maheshwar, which had made a name. Later on, when the movement of co-operation started, the weavers of Maheshwar formed 17 co-operative societies by the year[7] 1921. Since 1922, Co-operative[8] Store at Maheshwar was started to better the prospects of weavers and to dispose of finished products. Arrangements to supply cotton and silk yarns to weavers were also made. Two of the weavers were deputed to Bangalore to get training in improved looms and other weaving appliances. A warping and sizing machine and also a bobbing winding machine were purchased for the weavers to enable them to reduce cost of production. In 1928,[9] two more Balai weavers' co-operative societies were organised and all these societies made progress in subsequent period. These were all affiliated to the Maheshwar Central Societies. The Society started a weaving school in order to train the local weavers in improved mothods of weaving and also introduced a dyeing plant to enable the weavers to give fast colour to their produce.[10] Co-operative Central Bank, Branch, Maheshwar, financed the society. In order to increase the sphere of work of Government Demonstration and Handloom and Dyeing Factory, working at Maheshwar, the Government passed

1. Ibid., 1945, p. 22.
2. Ibid., 1941, p. 16.
3. Ibid., 1942, p. 115.
4. Ibid., 1940, pp. 11-12.
5. Harijan work in Holkar State, 1940-46, p. 21.
6. Holkar State Administration Report, 1901, p. 2.
7. Ibid., 1921, p 2.
8. Ibid., 1922, p. 125.
9. Ibid., 1929, p. 40.
10. Ibid., 1928, p. 80.

orders during 1936[1], to give impetus to the loom industry of Maheshwar by granting facilities for the import of dyes, undyed yarns, etc. The factory was reorganised and restrengthened. The Government sanctioned free distribution of flyshuttle looms to the weavers for producing varieties[2] of cloth. Efforts were also made to provide the weavers with more work by employing them for doing work for the factory, too. The Balai weavers of the District were Harijans. When their weaving profession had fallen into disuse,[3] efforts were made to revive the weaving work in Nimar. A small *khaddar* centre was organised at Thibgaon, to encourage the Balais to return to spinning and weaving. These weavers were provided with regular yarn quota, even when Cotton Yarn and Cloth Control Order was introduced in 1945-46.

In Nimar of Madhya Bharat

According to the Census of 1951, the total population of Backward Classes formed 62.47 per cent of the total population of the District, as would be clear from the figures tabulated below.

Total Population of the District	Total Backward Classes	Scheduled Castes	Scheduled Tribes	Other Backward Classes
7,58,694	4,73,451 (62.47 per cent)	80,711 (10.64 per cent)	3,09,233 (40.76 per cent)	83,507 (11.07 per cent)

In the study of this table it must be borne in mind, that this is not the true total population of all Backward Classes and Tribes of the District. It is the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes population, only of the Scheduled Areas of the District. The enumeration of these and provisionally listed Other Backward Classes was based on the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950, and Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950. According to these Orders, 19 Castes were Scheduled Castes; Gond, Karku and Sahoria of the District and Bhils and Bhilals (inclusive of Sub-Tribes) of the tahsils of Sendhwa, Barwani, Rajpur, Khargone, Bhikangaon and Maheshwar, were Scheduled Tribes. Provisionally listed 15 Classes were Other Backward Classes. For the welfare of the Backward Classes and Tribes of the District the Government of Madhya Bharat took following measures.

Creation of a New Department

The Government created a new Department of Harijan Uplift and Uplift of Backward Areas, to look after the social, economic and educational Uplift of these Backward people. The Department was later on in 1950-51 integrated with the Development Department.[4]

1. Ibid., 1938, p. 39.
2. Ibid., 1939, p. 64.
3. Harijan Work in Holkar State, 1940-46, p. 21.
4. Madhya Bharat Administration Report, 1950-51, p. 36.

Later in 1954-55, Harijan and Adivasi Department ceased to be a branch of the Development Department and the Scheduled Area continued to be in charge of Deputy Development Commissioner, Indore, for the purpose of Co-operation, Panchayat and Rural Development. For other purposes Harijan and Tribal Welfare Department under a Director was reorganised.

(I) Education

During the plan period extensive schemes for the spread of education among *Adiwasis* and Harijans were launched and carried out. Efforts were made to import primary, basic, secondary and vocational education to as many boys and girls as possible.

(1) Facilities already given to the *Adiwasis* and Harijans such as scholarships, stipends, free supply of school stationery, books, etc., were not only continued but also enhanced. Education was free for them. Girl students of these Classes received scholarships at one and a half times of the rate allowed to boys. *Adiwasi* and Harijan boys, prosecuting higher studies in institutions outside the State, were also given aid for purchase of books, etc.

(2) The number of educational institutions in the District was increased. At the end of first Plan period, there were 621 primary, 18 middle, 48 girls primary and 53 basic schools as against 243,12,23 and nil, respectively in pre-Plan period. The number of Colleges and middle schools witnessed no increase.

(3) Compulsory Primary Education Scheme, first introduced at Khargone, was gradually extended to its neighbouring villages, and more and more areas including those of *Adiwasis*. Thus by the end of the Plan period, the number of compulsory primary schools in the District was 202, on which Government spent Rs. 4,48,720. Of these 20 were in *Adiwasi* areas while the other 30 primary schools were imparting education to *Adiwasi* boys and girls. By the close of the period, 53 primary schools, including 20 compulsory primary schools of *Adiwasi* areas, were converted into basic schools. Besides these, there were 4 tribal primary schools conducted by the Department of Tribal Welfare.

Progress of education among Harijans and *Adiwasi* boys and girls of this District is reflected in the following Tabulated figures.

	1951				1956			
	Harijan		*Adiwasi*		Harijan		*Adiwasi*	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Primary Schools	1,564	88	1,062	76	3,365	113	2.431	140
Middle Schools	160	27	350	45	1,785	36	1,756	54

In the Plan period, the Government also provided boarding and lodging facilities by constructing hostels for *Adiwasi* and Harijan boys, on which it spent Rs. 82,000. Such boarding houses were seven in the District. Hostel for girl students, established at Niwali by Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Trust, received aid from the Government. For 20 Harijan students, the boarding house was established at Mandleshwar by the Nimar Jila Harijan[1] Mandal and aided by the Government.

The number of *Adiwasi* and Harijan scholars in the District and amounts they received in the form of scholarships are shown below.—

Year	Scholars		Scholarships etc. (In Rs.)	
	Harijan	*Adiwasi*	Harijan	*Adiwasi*
1951-52	369	594	9,031	5,472
1952-53	1,579	1,888	19,009	16,929
1953-54[2]	2,113	2,663	7,950	20,659
1954-55	3,403	3,706	20,500	30,000
1955-56	4,396	5,596	26,500	38,000

Mid-day meals were also provided to *Adiwasi* students for which Government spent Rs. 11,500 in 1954-55 and 1955-56.

(5) In the years 1952-53 and 1953-54, there were about 12 adult education centres for Harijans, on which Government spent about Rs. 10,000. Besides a number of social education centres, (115 Samaj Shiksha Kendras) benefiting 3,050 scholars and 96 libraries, containing books written for newly educated persons, being there, village leader camps were organised at 58 places, which benefited 3,268 men and women.

(6) Panchayats of the District[3] took keen interest in building schools. They spent about Rs. 3,15,000 on constructing 142 school buildings with 50 per cent Government aid.

(7) A number of moving libraries and 27 radio centres also helped in spreading knowledge.

(8) *Adiwasi* and Harijan *Balwadis* were conducted by the Tribal Welfare Department.

To sum up, during the Plan period Rs. 22,09,722 were spent for all round development of the District, which was mostly a Scheduled Area.

(B) Social Welfare

(1) Harijan Removal of Disabilities Act was passed in 1949. Propagandists were appointed by the Government in this District and they toured in

1. Ibid., 1953-54, p. 55.
2. First Five Year Plan, Nimar, 1951-52, pp. 40 and 47.
3. Ibid., p. 19.

towns and villages helping to foster fraternal feelings between Harijans and other non-Harijan sections of the community. They arranged gatherings of Harijans and other non-Harijans in towns and villages like, Sendhwa, Anjad, Rajpur, Barwani, Segaon, etc. Common tea parties were also arranged at places like Thikri, Sanawad, Maheshwar, etc. Several temples and wells were thrown open to Harijans. The Act was repealed by the Central Act, No. 22 of 1955.

(iii) Economic and Other Uplift

For the economic welfare of the Backward Classes of the District following measures were taken in pre-plan and First Plan period.

The Maheshwar Hand-loom Factory continued to supply fly-shuttle looms and provide dyeing facilities. The factory trained some weavers in fly-shuttle looms and in weaving of various types of cloth other than *Saris*, giving them stipends or piecework. It also distributed yarn to the local weavers at controlled rates. The scheme of Rural Uplift Work, under the supervision of District Rural Uplift Committee, was launched in the District. In the year 1940, 2,500 acres of land was disafforested in Khargone Tahsil to allot it to the landless *Adiwasis* and a sum of Rs. 3,000 was granted to the Adiwasi Vikas Kendra, Bablai. Co-operative Societies for *Adiwasis* and Harijans were organised, giving them necessary subsidies and loans. A large amount was sanctioned for starting Handloom centre at Palsud. Two Key Village Centres were opened in the District. Ten per cent seats in Government services were reserved for Harijan candidates and for them the age-limit was relaxed by three years. Every tahsil headquarters had a veterinary dispensary, and many of the places of the District had medical facilities. A Sanitary Officer or a Health Inspector supervised public health activities of the District,[1] which included vaccination, village sanitation, health propaganda, maternity and child welfare, T. B. Clinics, anti-tuberculosis work, anti-malaria campaign, control of epidemics, etc. Since 1950, B.C.G. Vaccination campaign, under World Health Organisation and the International Tuberculosis Campaign, continued in the towns and villages[2] of Nimar. Necessary amount was spent on purchasing medicine chests for the benefit of *Adiwasis*[3] and for supply of medicines to *Gram Panchayats* of the Scheduled areas. Eye-specialists were appointed in civil hospitals of Sendhwa and Barwani.[4]

Research section of the Agriculture Department took into hand the Nimar Cotton Scheme, in collaboration with the Indian Central Cotton Committee, for the extension of area under Buri cotton, yielding a long staple and commanding great demand.

1. Madhya Bharat Administration Report, 1951-52, p. 66.
2. Ibid., p. 118.
3. Ibid., 1950 51, p. 109.
4. Ibid., 1949-50, p. 137.

First Plan Period

For the all round development of *Adiwasis* and Harijans, Government created a new Department of Harijan and Adiwasi Welfare in August, 1953, to look after the work of propaganda and implementation of welfare schemes; adult education, distribution of scholarships and mid-day meals to students, removal of untouchability, hostel facilities, construction of roads, wells, schools and organisation of co-operatives, etc.

(2) The Department established *Adiwasi* and Harijan Community Welfare Centres, under which were carried out following activities, administration of *Balwadis*, basic schools, hostels, adult education, carpentry and *bamboo* work, bricks, and tiles work, Ayurvedic dispensary, maternity home, poultry farms and veterinary.

(1) The[1] Government not only continued strictly its policy of reserving 10 per cent vacancies in Government services for the persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, but also relaxed in their case the weightage accorded to the candidates in competitive tests. Instructions were also issued to appointing authorities to see that the special interests of these communities were properly safeguarded in all cases and in every respect.

(2) Nimar Cotton Improvement Scheme was pushed further, to evolve strain of *Deshi* cotton. As a result, two such strains were found suitable for the District, and extension of scheme was sanctioned.

(3) Provisions were made for organising more co-operative societies for Harijan and *Adiwasi* areas and giving them loans. By the end of the Plan period, there were 90 co-operative[2] societies having 1,643 members. Harijan Sahakari Sanstha, Sanawad, and Sanawad Charmakar Co-operative Society, were granted each Rs. 1,500 in Plan-period. Besides this, 15 Multi-purpose co-operative societies received Rs. 1,500 each, during 1951-52 and 1952-53, and each Rs. 750 in 1953-54.

(4) Institutions, working for the welfare of *Adiwasis* and Harijans of the District were given grants-in-aid during 1951-52 to 1955-56 as shown below.—

(i) Sarvodaya Sadhanashram, Thibgaon, Rs. 850.

(ii) Adiwasi Vikas Kendra, Bablai, Rs. 29,480.

(iii) Kasturba Gandhi Memorial Trust, Rs. 37,000. for Adiwasi Kanyashram, Niwali,

(iv) Nimar Zila Dalit Varga Sangh, Maheshwar, Rs. 1,000.

(5) Co-operative societies of weavers at Maheshwar, additional hand-spinning and hand weaving centres in tahsils of Kasrawad, Khargone and

1. Ibid., 1952-53, p. 4.
2. First Five Year Plan, Nimar, 1951-52, p. 49.

Maheshwar and a hand-loom centre at Barwani were established. For constructing a building for the last Centre, the State Government received Rs. 1,500 from the Central Government. Efforts to develop irrigation facilities were made. Repairs to tanks and canals at places like Balwada, Jamunia, Saslya Mandleshwar and Jethwaya were made. In tahsils of Rajpur, Barwani and Sendhwa, temporary dams on rivers were replaced by permanent ones and canals were constructed. New tanks at Sirlaya of Bhikangaon Tahsil were constructed at the cost of Rs. 12,47,200 and 8,68,708, respectively. These were meant to irrigate 5,240 and 4,500 acres of land, respectively, Sejwal tank and Satak *Nala* schemes, for irrigating 20,000 acres of land were started. Besides these. 2,279 wells were constructed and 2,277 were repaired. Some 365 pumping-sets and 59 *rahats* were installed. About seven dams and one tank were repaired by voluntary labour. All these facilities increased irrigated area, which was 1,000 acres in pre-plan period, by about 12,000 acres.

(6) Cultivators were given Rs. 1,678,173 from community budget and Rs. 1,70,212 from Grow More Food Scheme in the form of debt. As *taccavi* Rs. 2,92,968 were distributed.

(7) For the improvement of cattle-breed, centres at Mewali, Niwali Dasanawal, Raibidpura, Golwali and Rasgaon were opened at the cost of Rs. 68,000. Artificial insemination centre, Segaon, spent Rs. 32,000. Nimadi bullock improvement centre at Rodia, having special stud-bulls, spent Rs. 93,000. At Thikri an artificial insemination centre and poultry farm were working. Goat and buffalo-breed improvement centre was opened at Talwada Deb. Madhya Bharat Gosewa Sangh conducted at Bhawati Bijasan, a high-breed cattle-breeding centre, having 20 Nimadi stud-bulls. Poultry farms were also at Sendhwa, Barwani and Khurrampura[1], 'C' Class veterinary hospitals were opened at Khurrampura, Bagod, Dhargaon and Dogwa, and Rs. 32,000 were spent.

(8) Community Development project was introduced in Rajpur Tahsil from October, 1952. It included 3 Development Blocks and 463 villages with an area of 972 square miles and having a population of 2,00,630 persons, of whom more than one-third were *Adiwasis*.

(9) In organising cottage industries and their training centres, special care was bestowed on providing employment to *Adiwasis* and Harijans. These were organised at such places where Scheduled Castes and Tribes could easily reach and get benefit of them. The tanners of Anjad and nearby places used the tanning pits and took advantage of modern methods of tanning, provided at Tanning Centre of Anjad, started in 1954. Carpentry, basket, bricks and tiles manufacture training centres were also organised in the District by Tribal Welfare Department. Cottage industries like palm-gur[2] manufacturing,

1. First Five Year Plan, Nimar, 1951-56, pp. 5 and 15.
2. Ibid.

smithy, pottery making, tailoring, etc., were encouraged in *Adiwasi* areas of the District. Palm-gur training centres were at three places in the District. At two places of the District and in one production-cum-training centre, lessons in bamboo-work and other forest industries were given to *Adiwasis* at the cost of about Rs. 22,000. On four industrial centres of the Department of Industry, Rs. 61,000 were spent for the benefit of 1,643 trainees. Besides these, 37 women industrial training centres were also working in the District. For[1] other development work Rs. 50,000 were sanctioned and people contributed by way of labour, material, cash, etc., to the tune of about Rs. 27,000.

(10) In[2] the District, there were 346 village *panchayats*, seven *kendra panchayats* and one *mandal panchayat* and for their activities Rs. 2,73,209 were sanctioned for the Plan period. They organised 386 Local Development Centres. Rs. 1,40,219, Rs. 1,96,050 and Rs. 10,99,395 were received for construction of wells (for drinking water), *gram bhawans* and village roads, respectively. During the Plan period, 132 wells, 42 *bhawans* and roads of 149 miles length were constructed. With a view to removing scarcity of drinking water in *Adiwasi* areas, Rs. 55,000 were spent on the work of construction and repairs of wells, zira etc., in about 225 Adiwasi villages, during 1953-54 to 1955-56. In 33 villages wells for Harijans were constructed and repaired and Rs. 9,000 were spent.

(11) In order to facilitate communication, additional amount of Rs. 3,65,200 was sanctioned for the construction of village roads of the length of 34 miles. By the end of the Plan period, they were nearly completed. In *Adiwasi* areas, repairs to roads (311 miles) and *ghats* (18 miles) were done at the cost of Rs. 4,79,000. About 11 lakhs of Rs. were spent on construction of new roads in these areas. In the Plan-period, 117 miles of *pucka*[3] and 153 miles of *cutcha* roads and several *ghats* were constructed. More bus service routes were introduced in the District. Besides, at the cost of about Rs.[4] 3 lakhs, 278 miles of forest roads were constructed and repaired in the Plan-period.

(12) Medical and Public Health facilities were increased.[5] In pre-Plan-period, the number of Ayurvedic, and graded Allopathic dispensaries was, respectively, 23 and 18. The number, by the end of Plan period, rose to 34 and 18, respectively. The number of ungraded dispensaries was 28. Beds were also increased in some hospitals as that of Sendhwa. Rs. 1,500 were spent on buildings, for which people contributed equal amount. Under the Medicine Chests Scheme, in Plan period, the number of chests increased to 304 for the benefit of villages. *Dais* were trained. Mobile Dispensary Scheme was also introduced from 1953-54 and Rs. 32,360 were spent on it. Three maternity

1. Ibid., p. 49.
2. Ibid., pp. 17,18 and 49.
3. Ibid., p. 43.
4. Ibid., pp. 13-15.
5. Ibid., pp. 25-38 and 46-47.

welfare and 7 child welfare centres were established. Malaria Eradication Scheme was carried out in 1953-54 and 1954-55, for which Rs. 10,000 were spent and it covered 1,037 villages in the first year and 255 villages in the next year. D.D.T. was sprayed in about 67,000 houses. In villages, drainage of the length of 70,863 feet and 294 reformed type of latrines were constructed. For building new model-type houses, system of *taccavi* was introduced. The Public Health Engineering Department constructed 225 wells and repaired 164 wells. On five of them hand-pumps were installed. B.C.G. vaccination movement continued. In Plan period, about 50,000 persons were vaccinated and 1,45,000 cases were examined.

In short, the cause of all round economic and other welfare of Backward Classes and Tribes of the District received great impetus in the period under review.

In West Nimar of Madhya Pradesh

According to the Census of 1961, out of the total population of 9,90,464 of the District, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes constitute more than 52, per cent as would be clear from the following figures.

Total Population of Scheduled Castes	Percentage to the District population	Total Population of Scheduled Tribes	Percentage to the District population
1,05,852	10.69	4,00,343	41.43

In the study of the figures tabulated above, it is necessary to bear in mind that, these are the population figures only of the Castes and Tribes of the District, which are Scheduled by the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes List (Modification) Order, 1956. Persons belonging to 25 Castes and Gond, Korku and Soharia Tribes of the District are declared to be Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, respectively, by the Order. In addition to these, Bhils and Bhilalas including Barela, Patelia and other sub-Tribes in the tahsils of Sendhwa, Barwani, Rajpur, Khargone and Maheshwar, are Scheduled Tribes. As such, these are not the true total population figures of all the Backward Classes and Tribes of the District. Besides, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, there are thousands of persons of *Vimukta Jatis* (ex-criminal Tribes), Banjaras, etc., in the District.

For the all round welfare of all these, Government Department and a few voluntary social service organisations, wodded to their welfare, are working in the District. Details of uplift works are narrated below:

(i) Educational Uplift

The educational progress of the *Adiwasis*, Harijans and Other Backward Classes of the District in primary and middle and higher secondary schools during the period under review can be studied from the figures tabulated below:

Type of Educational Institutions and Years	*Adiwasis*		Harijans		Other Backward Classes	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Primary						
1956	3,395	113	2,431	140	—	—
1962	6,376	447	2,992	250	1,049	156
1963-64	5,488	573	2,749	432	599	69
1964-65	9,658	523	3,835	523	1,514	86
1965-66	7,847	715	3,355	618	1,382	239
Middle						
1956	1,785	39	1,750	54	—	—
1962	768	38	1,750	98	403	18
1963-64	771	61	1,041	133	73	11
1964-65	1,169	95	1,432	133	128	16
1965-66	1,254	101	1,596	136	384	6
Higher Secondary						
1963-64	335	5	476	38	9	—
1964-65	311	14	332	26	62	15
1965-66	407	23	547	18	66	—

Facilities given to them to encourage education continued through out the period. The statement given below shows yearwise amount of scholarships and number of students of those Classes benefited.

Year	Total amount spent on scholarship, etc., for				No. of students benefited			
	Harijans Rs.	*Adiwasis* Rs.	Other Backward Classes Rs.	*Vimukta Jatis* Rs.	Harijans	*Adiwasis*	Other Backward Classes	*Vimukta Jatis*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1956-57	25,948	50,000	1,650	—	3,313	5,743	481	--
1957-58	35,026	50,000	802	—	2,328	5,915	88	—
1958-59	22,960	67,376	2,148	422	483	6,436	161	24
1959-60	24,157	70,717	3,798	451	514	6,341	335	25
1960-61	23,314	70,894	3,248	553	549	7,066	291	35
1961-62	22,514	70,402	3,210	339	266	7,816	268	21
1962-63	22,600	70,500	4650	4021	397	399	302	515
1963-64	75,406		69,956	—	854	—	—	1,154

Scholarships for higher studies are also awarded to the students belonging to these Classes and Tribes. Amount distributed and the number of scholars

of those Classes and Tribes, taking higher education and benefited in a few recent years, are Tabulated below.

Year	Scheduled Castes		Scheduled Tribes		Other Backward Classes	
	No. of Scholars	Amount Rs.	No. of Scholars	Amount Rs.	No. of Scholars	Amount Rs.
1960-61	18	5,911.94	8	3,262	36	14,475
1961-62	8	2,790.00	9	3,580	16	8,810.66
1962-63	18	6,097.00	14	4,694	17	8,304.00

To provide boarding and lodging facilities to 768 students of Backward Classes and Tribes of the District, the number of hostels was increased to 31 by the year 1965, as against 25 in the second Five Year Pland period. Out of these 24 and six were for *Adiwasi* boys and girls, respectively, as against 17 and six in the second Plan period while one was for Harijan boys, as against two in the same period. In hostels 763 students are staying. In Khargone hostel a stipend of Rs. 30 per month and in others a stipend of Rs. 25 per month is given to each student. For educating children of *Adiwasis* and Harijans a number of *Balwadis* are running in the District.

Adult education centres were also running in the District at four Community Welfare Centres and other places. Total amount spent on them and number of adults benefited during the years 1956-57 to 1964-65 were Rs. 27,705 and 1,813 respectively.

In spite of these efforts, at the time of the Census of 1961, it was found that only 88 per 1,000 persons of Scheduled Castes population were literate, while the literacy proportion among 1,000 persons of Scheduled Tribes was only 27.

(ii) Economic and Other Welfare

(1) About 270 land-less families of Backward Classes and Tribes of the District received 1,700 acres of culturable waste-land from the Government during the years 1961 and 1962. Such land is now not available in the District for distribution to more landless families.

(2) In the years 1961-62 and 1962-63, *Adiwasi* and Harijan families numbering 103 and 22 ,respectively, received Rs. 51,000 and 11,000 as agricultural subsidy, while in the years 1964 and 1965, Rs. 24,50 and 2,500 were given as agricultural subsidy to 85 *Adiwasi* and five Harijan families respectively. During the years 1961-62 and 1962-63, Rs. 61,000 were given, as grants-in-aid for conservation of soil, to 260 persons, conserving 1,540 acres of land.

(3) Since the year 1957-58 to 1960-61, the Central Government sanctioned amounts to build ideal mud-huts for *Adiwasis* of the District. The Table below gives details of the work done under the scheme.

Year	Sanctioned Amount Rs.	Physical Target (Huts) aimed	Target Achieved Completed (Huts)	Incomplete	Refund Huts
1957-58	42,000	60	25	10	25
1958-59	70,000	100	65	31	4
1959-60	63,000	90	58	12	20
1960-61	1,03,600	148	96	27	25
Total	2,78,600	398	244	80	74

(4) In 1960-61, a colony for *Adiwasis* to house 20 families was also built at the cost of Rs. 28,750 in *Adiwasi* area of the District at village Bhamari in Khargone Tahsil.

(5) To remove the difficulty of drinking water, felt by *Adiwasis*, the Government continued the scheme of sinking of wells. The progress of the scheme can be seen from following figures available for the period under review.

Year	Target Fixed		Target Achieved	
	Physical (Wells)	Financial (Rs.)	Physical (Wells)	Financial (Rs.)
1	2	3	4	5
1956-57	18	36,000	8	16,000
1957-58	17	34,000	Amount Lapsed.	
1958-59	13	26,000	12	24,000
1959-60	28	54,500	27	52,950
1960-61	65	1,27,000	55	1,07,500
1961-62	6	14,000	5	9,600
1962-63	7	14,000	7	14,000
1963-64	3	6,000	3	6,000
1964-65	24	12,000	24	12,000

Similarly, drinking water difficulties, felt by the Harijans of the District, was also removed to an extent by constructing wells for them in the years 1958-59 to 1963-64.—

Year	Target Fixed		Target Achieved	
	Physical (Wells)	Financial Rs.	Wells Constructed	Amount spent
1958-59	2	4,000	1	2,000
1959-60	2	4,000	2	4,000
1960-61	3	6,000	3	6,000
1962-63	1	2,000	1	2,000
1963-64	1	2,000	1	2,000

Besides this, in *Adiwasi* area one *bund* was constructed at the cost of Rs. 5,000 in the year 1960-61. During the period under review, quite a large amount was spent over repairs to wells meant for *Adiwasis* and Harijans.

(6) A scheme to provide legal aid to Harijans and Adiwasis o. .l'. District was introduced from the year 1961-62. Under the scheme Rs. 990 and Rs. 300 were sanctioned, respectively, for *Adiwasis* and Harijans during 1961-62 and 1962-63. For the year 1964-65 Rs. 1,030 were sanctioned and Rs. 510 were distributed as a legal aid to these Classes.

(7) Steps were taken to develop communication in *Adiwasi* areas of this District, during the second and third Five Year Plan-periods as shown below.—

Work Done	Length in Kms.	Amount Spent in Rs.
Construction of		
1. Fair Weather Roads	131	1,71,009
2. Repairs to Roads	146	21,500
3. Construction of	No.	68,000
Rapatas	12	
4. *Ghats*	15	41,000

During the period under review one small bridge and eight culverts were also constructed.

(8) Under Co-operation (central sector), during second Five Year Plan-period, 32 grain store committees were constituted for *Adiwasis*, while their number increased to 55 in 1964-65 as against 47 in the year 1963-64. Each committee was granted Rs. 500 for seed and Rs. 200 for arranging store.

(9) Four veterinary hospitals, together with poultry farms, opened at four *Adiwasi* Community Welfare Centres continue functioning. Similarly four Ayurvedic dispensaries with maternity centres each having six beds are functioning at thoe centres.

(10) At village Bablai, which is in tribal area, the Department of Industries, started in 1961, a mat weaving centre to train *Adiwasis* and others. Besides, two bamboo and basket making and carpentry centres, along with three (in 1958-59 increased to four) brick-manufacturing centres, organised by Tribal Welfare Department, are working. These centres gave stipends to trainees worth Rs. 12 to 15 per month. First two centres trained about 200 trainees spending over them about Rs. 18,700 as stipends amount during first four years of the Second Plan. Brick-manufacturing centres during the same period, trained about 220 persons, to whom stipend worth Rs. 5,210 was given. There is a Training-cum-Production Centre and one Managerial Training Centre started at Barwani.

The Training cum-Production Centre of Barwani is for training in four trades, *viz.*, carpentry, smithy, tailoring and weaving, admitting 12 trainees in each trade. The centre gives Rs. 30 per month as stipend to each trainee. Centre, opened in the Third Plan in 1965-66, has selected 57 trainees each receiving a stipend of Rs. 40 per month for training in the trade of management.

(11) All the villages of the District have been brought under the co-operative fold and naturally persons belonging to Backward Classes and Tribes are receiving cheap credit facilities from the local societies. The three Co-operative Central Banks of the District have opened their 13 branches in the District during the years 1962-63 to 1963-64. They are disbursing cheap credit facilities to cultivators through a net-work of service and other types of societies, membership of which is open to all. Number of co-operative societies, organised in the District, during the years 1958-59 to 1964-65, is given below.—

Year	1958-59	1959-60	1960-61	1961-62	1962-63	1963-64	1964-65
No. of Co-operative Societies	1	25	36	78	76	57	28

There are 25 Tribal Multi-purpose Co-operative Societies and 13 Forest Labourers' Co-operative Societies in the District. Each of them received grant-in-aid, as working capital loan, of Rs. 10,000/- and godown subsidy of Rs. 750/- from Tribal Welfare and Planning and Development Department. Some of these societies are doing credit business, while others have taken up activities such as running of consumers' stores, distribution of fertilizers, sugar, etc. Out of the 25 Tribal Multi-Purpose Societies, 16 societies are working in the Multi-Purpose Tribal Block, Barwani, since the year 1963-64. Financial position of these 16 societies on 30th June, 1964 was as under.—

Members	Share Capital	Reserve and other funds	Deposits	Working Capital
	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
2,437	1,39,583	29,568	68,812	7,83,790

There are 24 Weavers' Co-operative Societies of Backward Classes, membership of which is 1,254. Financial position of these societies on 30th June, 1964 was as under.—

Share Capital	Reserve and other funds	Borrowings	Other Liabilities
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
22,001	41,001	2,02,271	13,788

There are 32 Charmkar Co-operative Societies, financial position of which was as under on 30th June, 1964.—

Share Capital	Reserve Fund	Borrowings	Other Liabilities
Rs. 22,001	Rs. 2,831	Rs. 68,493	Rs. 13,788

In the sphere of provision of long term credit to the cultivators, including those, who belong to Backward Classes and Tribes, Land Mortgage Bank was

also organised in the District during the year 1961-62. Position of this bank is as under.—

Year	Number of Loan Applications Pending at the Beginning of Year	Number of Applications Received During the Year	Number of Applications Sanctioned	Finalised Amount
1	2	3	4	5
				(Rupees)
1963-64	341	110	152	4,58,150
1964-65	74	216	189	7,61,400

There were 234 and 28 loan applications, rejected or withdrawn, in the years 1963-64 and 1964-65, respectively. A Target of Rs. 8 lakhs was fixed for the Bank against which business of Rs. 7,61,400 could be achieved.

The Madhya Pradesh Apex Tribal Co-operative Corporation Ltd., Bhopal, opened its branch at Khargone in the year 1963-64, which is carrying on the non-credit business like purchasing of gum, *rusa* oil, honey, etc. It is also to supervise the Tribal Co-operative Societies in the District. Out of 38 Tribal Co-operative Societies, nine societies are affiliated to this Corporation.

Besides this, with the organisation of Marketing Societies in the District, linking of credit with marketing has also been achieved. Seven such societies were functioning in the District up to 30th June, 1965.

Four Marketing Societies of the District out of seven have Government officials on deputation as managers. The Ganesh Marketing Society Ltd., Khargone is running five consumers' stores, one at Khargone proper and four in the villages. This Society has been given financial assistance for starting a processing unit.

Beside Government Departments, there are a few voluntary social service organisations in the District, which, with grants-in-aid from the Government, have been working for the uplift of Backward Classes and Tribes. Of them, Kasturba Vanavasi Kanyashram, Niwali, founded by Kusturba Gandhi National Memorial Trust deserves mention for its multifarious activities of *Adiwasi* welfare.

Kasturba Vanavasi Kanyashram, Niwali

In 1952, the then Madhya Bharat Government put forth a proposal to open a girls' hostel in Tribal area, under the guidance of Kasturba Trust. It was accepted by the Trust, and the Ashram was inaugurated in March, 1959. The Trust established an *Ashram* to keep the *Vanwasi* girls and to arrange for their instruction. It also started a *creche* for the small children of *Adiwasis* and a health centre.

Then ushered in an era of flowering of all the measures. Niwali became a centre of multi-purpose activities, accommodating 101 *Adiwasi* girls (1964-65) and a higher secondary school upto 9th grade. In the year 1962-63, there were 68 girls in the Ashram studying upto 8th grade. The course of instruction, prescribed by the Government, is completed on the pattern of *Nai-Talim*. Beside schooling girls, work in several crafts like spinning, tailoring, gardening, etc., is done by the girls. After completing education many of the girls underwent *Gram Sevika* training as *Balwadi* teachers or as midwives.

The Ashram started *Balwadis* in surrounding two villages. The *Balwadi* teachers also organise adult education section. Hundreds of persons have taken benefit of the latter. From July, 1959, *creches* are being run along side the *Balwadis*. In each *creche* a provision has been made to keep ten children.

Recently, the Ashram has organised a Children Home for five children of the age upto 5 years. The health centre of the *Ashram* teaches tribal people the art of healthy-living, besides doing curative work. The midwives of the centre conduct the indoor and outdoor delivery cases and the centre caters to about 34 villages around the *Ashram*. In the year 1963-64, the centre was used by 27,510 outdoor patients.

Since March, 1963, Mahila Mandal is working and inspiring women to take to craft learning. Girijan Sangh, organised in February, 1964, with a membership of 65, is striving to set tribals free from out-dated traditions. Besides this, many other activities like study-circle, orientation camps, *padyatras*, women camps, etc., are organised. The State Government, the Central Social Welfare Board and Gandhi Smarak Nidhi, help the institution.

According to the Census of 1961, of the total Scheduled Caste population of the District, 571 persons per 1,000 were workers out of whom 155 and 273 were cultivators and agricultural labourers, respectively. the rest were working in other occupations like household industry, other services, etc. Of the 1,000 Scheduled Tribes persons, 573 were workers out of whom 456 and 92 were cultivators and agricultural labourers, respectively. These figures reflect to an extent, the economic condition of these Castes and Tribes of this District.

(d) Charitable Endowments

Organisation for the Control of Public Trusts and Charitable Endowments

At District level, the main controlling authority of the Public Trusts, established in the District, is the Collector, who is the Registrar for this purpose. Madhya Pradesh Public Trusts Act, 1951 (of 1951). extended to the District on the 8th May, 1960, governs the working of all Public Trusts, which are required to get themselves registered with Registrar. The Registrar looks after the proper management and functioning of these institutions. Prior ro this, the working of various Trusts of the District was regulated and supervised under

various Central as well as state Acts. The Madhya Pradesh Public Trusts Act of 1951 has brought about systematisation in the management of all the Public Trusts of the District.

As required by the Act of 1951, registered Public Trusts of the District have opened their individual account in the Scheduled Banks of the District and deposited all their funds in the bank. The Manager or the Secretary of the Trust, as the case may be, is authorised to spend the amount, normally required for the smooth running of the day to day essential activities of the Trust. All the Public Trust Committees prepare their annual budgets and send them for the approval of the Registrar.

Till the year 1964-65, the total number of registered Public Trusts in the District was six of these, three are purely religious. The remaining three are charitable and render some sort of social or educational service to the public. Their brief history is narrated below.

1. Shri Sarveshwar Trust, Pratapganj, Sendhwa

The Firm M/s. Sarveshwar Company of Sendhwa donated a sum of Rs. 591 in 1960, for establishment of this Trust. The object of the Trust in the welfare of human beings and all living creatures. It is to help orphans, disabled and old persons and also to extend financial help to poor deserving students. It is also to help in constructing wells, hospitals, etc. Its movable property is Rs. 5,000. Its average annual income, received through donations, is Rs. 4,000, while its average annual expenditure is Rs. 3,000, equally distributed for religious and charitable purposes.

2. Shri Ram Dharmashala Trust, Khargone

The Trust was created in 1955, by the citizens of the town for constructing a *dharmashala* for the Hindus, through raising funds out of donations. The Trust possesses an immovable property of the value of Rs. 40,000. On an average, its annual income is Rs. 4,000, while the average annual expenditure is Rs. 220. The sources of income included donations, rent of buildings, etc.

3. High School and Boarding House Committee Trust, Khargone

The Trust, organised in 1923 by the Ahilya Utsav Committee, established a high school at Khargone. It is also to look after the lodging and boarding facilities of the students of the place. The Trust has an immovable property of the value of about Rs. 60,000. Value of the movable property is Rs. 2,000. House-rent is the source of income, which is Rs. 7,000 per year. Annual expenditure of the Trust is Rs. 3,000.

There are a few other public trusts in the District and they are registered in the sense that their trust-deeds are registered. Four such important trusts

created for educational and medical services are working in the District. There is no important Muslim Wakf in the District, registered under the Muslim Wakfs Act, 1954 (Central) applied to the District since 1962.

As regards charitable endowments, it is interesting to note that, though there are many *Khasgi* charitable endowments, created by the rulers of Holkar family, none of them is meant for rendering any social service. They are mostly for the upkeep of temples, *chhatris*, etc., built by the rulers at Maheshwar.

CHAPTER XVIII

PUBLIC LIFE AND VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANISATIONS

Representation in Union Legislature

The District of West Nimar, as it exists today, was organised only in January, 1949.[1] Prior to this, since the formation of Madhya Bharat in 1948, the area covered by the old Barwani State, one of the major constituent parts forming the present day District, was a separate[2] District of the same name. Even prior to it, Barwani was a separate princely State and Nimar was one of the districts of the princely State of Holkar. Both these princely States till 15th August, 1947 recognised the paramountcy of the British Crown. The functions of paramountcy were till then exercised through the Crown Representative, who was also the Governor-General of India and whose functions pertaining to the relations of the British Crown with the Rulers of these princely States remained distinct. A separate machinary as well as procedure were evolved for the exercise of these functions.

Naturally, till the first General Elections of 1951-52, held in Madhya Bharat under the Constitution of Republic of India, there was no representative of the District of West Nimar in the Union Legislature. When the Delimitation of Parliamentary and Assembly Constituencies (Madhya Bharat) Order of 1951 was passed for the first General Elections, the entire West Nimar District of today was included in one constituency named Nimar and this one-member constituency, for the election of a representative to the Lok Sabha, continued till the Third General Elections of 1962.

Details of this Nimar Parliamentary constituency during the last three General Elections were as tabulated below.

Election year	Total No. of Votes	Total No. of Valid Votes polled	Percentages col. 3 to 2
1	2	3	4
1951-52	3,75,327	1,27,499	33.97
1957	3,95,767	1,54,238	38.97
1962	4,56,670	1,98,290	43.42

1. Madhya Bharat Administration Report, 1948-49, p. 18.
2. Ibid., p. 12.

Representation in the State Legislature

Legislative Committee of Indore State was first constituted in May, 1925, consisting of an official and seven elected non-official members representing varied interests of the entire State,[1] of which Nimar (excluding the areas of the States of Barwani, Dhar, Dewas etc. and including Nisarpur region of Dhar) was one of the five districts. The condition remained unchanged in the first instance till the year 1935, when Indore State Legislative Committee was reconstituted and converted into Legislative Council[2] with enhanced power and increased number of members representing diverse interests in the State. It was composed of 15 nominated and 15 elected members. Its first session was held in 1936.[3] Rural population of the then Nimar District was represented in the Council by a member. Besides, the District also formed part of the following single-member non-territorial constituencies—(1) District Bar, (2) District Municipalities, (3) Industrial Organizations (4) *Jagirdars* (including *Istamurardars*) and (5) Graduates of three years standing.[4]

It was only in March, 1940, that Indore Legislative Council was to be reconstituted under constitutional reforms[5] (recommended by the Constitutional Enquiry Committee appointed in 1939). But due to World War II, extension was given to the Old Council.

A prominent feature of these Reforms was that the State was to be divided into constituencies for electing 37 representatives for Indore State Legislative Council consisting of 53 members in all. The then Nimar District was to be divided into following Rural constituencies[6] (1) Khargone Pargana (2) Segaon Pargana (3) Sendhwa Pargana including Sendhwa-cum-Nisarpur (4) Bhikangaon Pargana (5) Maheshwar including Mandleshwar-cum-Kasrawad Parganas. Barwaha Pargana was included in Mhow constituency (6) and Nimar Division (Reserved for Muslims). As regards Urban constituencies, the District was to be divided into following constituencies comprising Nimar District Municipal areas viz. (1) Nimar Division Urban A (2) Nimar Division Urban B and (3) Nimar Division Urban (reserved for Muslims). Moreover, the District was to form part of the other Urban and Special non-territorial constituencies like Double-member Jagirdars' constituency, Graduates' constituency, Chamber of Commerce constituency, Women's (South) constituency, etc.

The old Council was dissolved on 31st March, 1944,[7] and Elections of Council were ordered by the Government under the reformed constitution. The electoral rolls of all constituencies of entire Indore State were brought up-to-

1. Holkar State Administration Report, 1925, p. 21; 1934, p. 22.
2. Ibid., 1935, p. 16.
3. Aaj ka *Madhya Bharat* December, 1951, p. 7.
4. Indore Legislative Council Manual, 1935, p. 1.
5. Holkar State Administration Report, 1945, p. 32.
6. The Half-Yearly List of Officers of the Holkar State 1947, pp. 6-7.
7. Indore Legislative Council Rules and Standing Orders, 1942, p. 122.
8. Holkar State Administration Report, 1944, p. 29.

date and fully revised. In this Council of 53 members, 37 were elected by the people from different constituencies of the State.[1] The Council started functioning in September, 1944. Conditions remained practically unchanged till early 1948, when the Ruler of Indore State for the first time introduced responsible Government.[2] By the middle of the same year formation of a new State, popularly known as Madhya Bharat, which included the regions of entire Indore and Barwani States together with many other princely States of Central India, took place and Nimar and Barwani districts became the constituent parts of that new State. In 1949, Barwani District was merged into Nimar District.

An Interim Legislative Assembly of Madhya Bharat was constituted of 90 members out of whom 15 were elected from the old Indore State Legislative Council. This Assembly continued its work till the year 1951-52, when first General Elections under the new constitution of Republic of India were held.

This General Election on adult franchise was a new and novel experiment for the people of the State and the District.

The following table exhibits the names,etc. of the constituencies in which the then Nimar District was split up during the General Elections of 1951-52, to elect the representatives of the District to the Madhya Bharat Legislative Assembly.

Name of the Constituency	No. of Seats	Total no. of Votes	Total no. of Valid Votes polled	Percentage col. 4 to 3	Reserved seats
1	2	3	4	5	6
Barwani	1	39,667	9,957	25.1	1 Scheduled Tribes.
Rajpur	1	46,182	18,744	40.6	
Sendhwa	2	158,996	45,958	28.2	1 Scheduled Tribes.
Khargone	2	1,56,484	44,774	28.6	1 Scheduled Tribes.
Bhikangaon	1	42,522	13,015	30.6	
Barwaha	2	1,"8,432	62,128	34.8	1 Scheduled Castes.

For the purpose of General Elections of 1957, constituencies of West Nimar District, were reconstituted. These reconstituted constituencies sent their

1. Ibid.,
2. Madhya Bharat Administration Report, 1948-49, p. 4.
3. Ibid.,'pp. 11-12.
4. Ibid., p. 22.

elected representatives to the newly reorganised Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly.

The following table gives details of these rearranged constituencies.

Name of the Constituency	No. of Seats	Total no. of Votes	Total No. of Valid Votes polled	Percentages col. 4 to 3.	Reserved Seats.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Barwani	1	44,417	14,330	32.50	Scheduled Tribes.
2. Rajpur	1	49,844	22,158	46.46	Scheduled Tribes.
3. Sendhwa	1	45,833	15,013	32.76	Scheduled Tribes.
4. Khargone	2	1,91,464	67,319	35.16	1 Scheduled Tribes.
5. Maheshwar	2	2,20,666	86,214	39.07	1 Scheduled Castes.
6. Barwaha	1	49,608	21,234	43.00	—

When the Two-Member Constituencies (Abolition) Act, 1961 was passed, the former two-member constituencies of the District underwent a change, while others were readjusted.

The table below exhibits the details of the constituencies of West Nimar.

Name of the Constituency	No. of Seats	Total No. of Votes	Total No. of Valid Votes polled	Percentages col. 4 to 3	Reserved Seats
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Barwaha	1	55,586	28,720	51.7	—
2. Maheshwar	1	56,697	24,741	43.6	1 Scheduled Castes.
3. Bhikangaon	1	70,701	23,537	33.3	--
4. Khargone	1	58,739	28,209	48.0	—
5. Sendhwa	1	48,587	21,648	44.5	1 Scheduled Tribes
6. Dhulkot	1	57,859	20,123	34.7	1 Scheduled Tribes
7. Barwani	1	53,324	20,058	37.5	1 Scheduled Tribes
8. Rajpur	1	55,177	27,080	49.1	1 Scheduled Tribes

POLITICAL PARTIES

With the attainment of Independence by India in August, 1947, an accelerated upsurge of political consciousness was manifested in this District too. Ultimately the Ruler of Indore State accepted the demand of responsible Government in 1948. In the mean while, the formation of Madhya Bharat took place. The Praja Mandal, which was hither to guided and championed by the Indian National Congress, was transformed into Madhya Bharat Congress Committee.

The Indian National Congress Party

After the year 1948, the Party had its branches in the District of Nimar. Thus Nimar District Congress Committee was formed having under it Tahsil Congress Committees. This was the premier political Party of the District. In 1950, India became Republic and thereafter first General Elections for the Union and State Legislatures took place in 1951-52. The influence of the Party in the District can be studied from the election results of the years 1951-52, 1957 and 1962.

Congress in Union Legislature, 1951-52

For a seat in the House of People, Nimar District formed one constituency in 1951-52 General Elections for which the number of electors was 3,75.327. The number of contestants was two. The total number of valid votes polled in this election was 1,27,499 i.e., 33.97[1] per cent. The Congress candidate polled 83,433 i.e. 65.44 per cent of the total valid votes of the constituency and won the seat.

Congress in State Legislature, 1951-52

For the elections of State Legislative Assembly the District was divided into six constituencies of which three were double-member constituencies.

For these nine seats there were 26 contesting members affiliated to various parties. The Congress Party contested all the nine seats and captured six of them. The details[2] of the election in respect of the Party are given below, and they reflect the comparative influence of the party in various constituencies.

Name of the Constituency (1)	No. of Seats (2)	Toral Valid Votes polled with percentages (3)		No. of Contesting Candidates (4)	Result (5)
1. Barwani	1	3,298	(33.1)	2	Lost
2. Bhikangaon	1	8,435	(64.8)	3	Won
3. Rajpur	1	7,057	(37.6)	5	Lost
4. Sendhwa	2	9,614	(20.9)		Lost
		11,277	(24.5)	5	Won
5. Khargone	2	13,671	(30.5)		Won
		13,674	(30.6)		Won
6. Barwaha	2	18,634	(30.0)	6	Won
		22,352	(36.0)		Won

1. Report on the First General Elections in India, 1951-52, Vol. II, pp. 100-01.
2. Ibid., p. 605.

After the Reorganisation of States, when the Constitution of Indian National Congress underwent a change, a District Congress Committee for West Nimar remained as it was, but in place of Tahsil and Gram Congress Committees, Mandal Congress Committees numbering 38 were formed in the District.

Congress in General Elections of 1957 for Lok Sabha

In the General Elections (1957) for the seat in the House of People Nimar constituency remained unchanged. Then the total number of electors was 3,95,767 while the number of valid votes polled was 1,54,238 or 39.0 per cent out of which the candidate of the Congress Party secured 73,180 i.e., 47.44 per cent and captured the seat. The number of contesting candidates was three.

Congress in State Legislature, 1957

For the elections of seats in the State Legislative Assembly West Nimar was divided into six re-adjusted constituencies. As made clear in section (a), the number of double-member constituencies was now reduced to two.

Candidates of the Congress Party contested all the seats and secured seven out of eight. It suffered in Barwani constituency in which it could secure only 6,103 i.e., 42.6 per cent of the valid votes. The influence of the Congress Party in the remaining five constituencies is reflected in the election statistics given below.[1]

Name of the Constituency (1)	Total Valid Votes polled with percentages (2)		No. of Contesting Candidates (3)	Result (4)
1. Rajpur	11,212	(50.6)	3	Won
2. Barwaha	12,375	(58.3)	3	Won
3. Sendawa	7,388	(49.2)	3	Won
4. Khargone				
General	15,229	(22.6)		Won
Reserved	16,099	(23.6)	6	Won
5. Maheshwar				
General	21,761	(25.2)		Won
Reserved	20,217	(23.5)	6	Won

Congress in General Elections of 1962, Lok Sabha Seat

For the General Elections of 1962, the entire District of West Nimar was included in one Khargone constituency for the purpose of Lok Sabha seat. The total number of electors of the constituency was 4,56,670, while the total number of valid votes polled was 1,98,290 i.e., 43.4 per cent. In the field there were three

1. Ibid., 1957, Vol. II, pp. 148-49.
2. Ibid,, pp. 773-74.

contestants. The Congress Party fought the seat and lost it. It secured only 69,472 i.e. 35.3 per cent of the total valid votes.

Congress in State Legislature, 1962

For the State Legislative Assembly elections, the areas of the District were grouped in eight constituencies. The Congress Party contested all the seats and lost them. In these elections the position of the party remained as under in various constituencies.

Name of the Constituency (1)	No. of Contestants (2)	Total Valid Votes polled with percentages (3)		Valid Votes polled by the Congress with percentages (4)
1. Barwaha	2	28,720	(51.7)	11,630 (40.5)
2. Maheshwar	4	24,741	(43.6)	9,219 (37.3)
3. Bhikangaon	3	23,537	(33.3)	6,018 (25.6)
4. Khargone	3	28.209	(48.0)	11,833 (41.9)
5. Dhulkot	3	20,123	(34.8)	8,211 (40.8)
6. Sendhwa	3	21,648	(44.6)	8,841 (40.8)
7. Barwani	2	20,058	(37.6)	7,457 (37.2)
8. Rajpur	2	27,080	(49.0)	9,737 (36.0)

Bharatiya Jan Sangh

The second influencial political party of the District is Bharatiya Jan Sangh. It started functioning in the District since December, 1951. The party has its district branch, office of which is at Khargone. Besides this, several Mandal Committees each for one Legislative Constituency have been formed. Several Local Committees are also working throughout the District.

Jan Sangh in General Elections, 1951-52

In the General Elections of 1951-52 for the Lok Sabha seat, the Party had not set up its candidate but, however, contested seven of the nine seats for the State Legislative Assembly. The fate of the party candidates is reflected in the following details[1] of these elections.

Name of the Constituency (1)	No. of Seats (2)	Total Valid Votes polled with percentages (3)		Result (4)
1. Barwani	1	6,659	(66.9)	Won
2. Bhikangaon	1			Not contested
3. Rajpur	1	8,227	(43.9)	Won
4. Sendhwa	2	11,884	(25.9)	Won
		8,940	(19.5)	Lost
5. Khargone	2	8.282	(18,5)	Lost
6. Barwaha	2	6,374	(10.3)	Lost
		7,012	(11.2)	Lost

1. Ibid., 1951-52, Vol. II, p. 604.

Jan Sangh in General Elections of 1957

In the General Elections of 1957, the Party had set up its candidate for parliamentary seat. He could secure only 62,553[1] i.e., 40.5 per cent of the valid votes and this deprived the Party of the seat. As far as State Legislative Assembly seats are concerned, Jan Sangh contested all the eight seats and suffered reverses in seven cases winning only one seat of Barwani constituency, in which it secured 8,227 or 57.4 per cent valid votes. The party influence in other constituencies is reflected in the following figures[2] of elections in various constituencies.

Name of the Constituency (1)	No. of Seats (2)	Total Valid Votes polled with percentages (3)		Result (4)
1. Rajpur	1	9,673	(43.7)	Lost
2. Barwaha	1	2,146	(10.1)	Lost
3. Sendhwa	1	6,324	(42.1)	Lost
4. Khargone	2	13,162	(19.6)	Lost
		12,226	(18.4)	Lost
5. Maheshwar	2	16,754	(19.4)	Lost
		16,872	(19.6)	Lost

Jan Sangh in General Elections of 1962

In the General Elections of 1962, the Lok Sabha seat of the District was captured by the Jan Sangh candidate, who secured 53.1 per cent or 1,05,386 of the total valid votes. Of the eight seats allotted to the District in the State Legislative Assembly the Jan Sangh contested seven seats and won them. The following election statistics of those constituencies reflect the influence of the Party in them.

Name of the Constituency (1)	Total Valid Votes polled (2)	Percentages of Valid Votes (3)
1. Barwaha	Not contested	
2. Maheshwar	13,403	54.17
3. Bhikangaon	15,534	65.99
4. Khargone	13,849	49.09
5. Dhulkot	10,366	51.01
6. Sendhwa	11,862	54.79
7. Barwani	12,601	62.82
8. Rajpur	17,343	64.04

1. Ibid., 1957, Vol. II, p. 148-49.
2. Ibid., p. 772-75.

Socialist Party

A district branch of the Socialist Party was established in this District in 1949. At tahsil level the party has organised its branches in tahsils of Khargone, Barwaha, Sendhwa, and Bhikangaon.

Socialist Party in Three General Elections

In the General Elections of 1951-52, the party candidate contested Nimar Parliamentary Constituency seat and suffered a defeat by securing only[1] 44,066 or 34.6 per cent of the total valid votes. In case of State Legislative Assembly seats the Party set up only one candidate for Khargone constituency seat. He polled only[2] 4,759 or 10.6 per cent of the total valid votes and lost the seat.

The Party abstained from setting up any of its candidates either for the Lok Sabha seat or State Legislative Assembly seat during the General Elections of 1957.

In the General Elections of 1962 for Lok Sabha seat the Party set up its candidate, who could secure only 23,432 or 11.8 per cent of the total valid votes and lost the seat. Of the eight seats in the State Legislative Assembly, only five were contested by the Party candidates, who all lost them, as would be clear from the following election statistics.

Name of the Constituency (1)	Total No. of Valid Votes polled (2)	Percentages of Valid Votes. (3)
1. Maheshwar	936	3.34
2. Bhikangaon	1,985	8.43
3. Khargone	2,527	9.00
4. Dhulkot	1,546	7.68
5. Sendhwa	945	4.37

General Party Position in the District

To sum up, the following Table would help to gauge the comparative influence of the various political parties over the people of the District, who elected candidates of these parties for the seat of Lok Sabha as well as seats of the State

1. Ibid., 1951-62, Vol. II, pp. 100-101,
2. Ibid., p. 604.

Legislative Assembly during the General Elections of 1951-52, 1957 and 1962.

Legislature and year of Election	(a) No. of seats (b) No. of voters (c) No. of valid votes polled	(a) No. of contesting candidates (b) No. of seats won by (c) No. and percentage, of valid votes, polled by Congress	Socialist	Jan Sangh	Independents.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
LOK SABHA	(a) 1	1	1	..	..
1951-52	(b) 3,75,327	1	..	..	..
	(c) 1,27,499	83,433	44,066	..	..
		(65.44)	(34.56)	..	..
1957	(a) 1	1	..	1	1
	(b) 3,95,767	1	...	—	—
	(c) 1,54,238	73,180	..	62,553	18,505
		(47.44)		(40 55)	(12.01)
1262	(a) 1	1	1	1	..
	(b) 4,56,670	..	..	1	..
	(c) 1,98,290	69,472	23,432	1,05,386	..
		(35.63)	(11.82)	(53.15)	..
VIDHAN SABHA					
1951-52	(a) 9	9	1	7	9
	(b) 3,75,327	6	..	3	..
	(c) 1,94,576	1,08,012	4,759	57,378	24,427
		(55.51)	(2.45)	(29.49)	(12.55)
1957	(a) 8	8	..	8	7
	(b) 3,95,767	7	..	1	..
	(c) 2,26,268	1,10,384	..	85,348	30,500
		(48.78)	..	(37.74)	(13.48
1962	(a) 8	8	5	7	2
	(b) 4,56,670	...	..	7	1
	(c) 1,94,116	72,946	7,839	94,958	18,373
		(37.58)	(4.04)	(48.92)	(9.46)

NEWSPAPERS

The District being a backward region, there were no newspapers or periodicals of any importance to its credit. There is a reference, which dates back to the year 1933[1] and which mentions the probable existence of two Hindi periodicals by name *Kshatriya* and *Adbhuta Mitra* of this District. The source informs

1. Monthly *Vani*, Khargone, Vol.2, Nos.10-11, May-June, 1933,, p. 16.

that the town of Sanawad was the place of publication of *Kshatriya* and *Adbhut Mitra* was published from Kasrawad. The next attempt of the District in the field of journalism seems to be that of the establishment of a Hindi monthly '*Vani*' started from August, 1931. The monthly was founded and edited by V.S. Khode and was published by him in his 'Vani' Press, Khargone. It was devoted to all round welfare of Prant Nimar. It maintained a high literary standard and was approved for educational institutions by Education Department of the Holkar State. The monthly appears to have enjoyed a very short span of life. Subsequently in 1950, the District witnessed the appearance of Hindi fortnightly '*Nimad*'. First, it seems to have appeared from Mandleshwar. Then its place of publication was shifted to Sanawad, Indore and Thibgaon (Tahsil Khargone). The publication witnessed closure and reappearance on several occasions. It was devoted to the welfare of the District. Circulation of the paper was approximately 750. Since 1957, it has not been registered with the registrar of Newspapers, New Delhi. In 1963, a Hindi weekly called *Maa* started its publication from Mandleshwar, having a circulation of about 400 copies. It is devoted to literature and culture.

The reading public of the District, which is mainly concentrated in tahsil headquarters of the District is dependent on newspapers and periodicals published in other Districts within and without the State of Madhya Pradesh. Among the English dailies, *Free Press Journal* (Bombay) commands the largest circulation. It is followed by *Times of India* (Bombay-Delhi), *Hitawada* (Bhopal), and *Madhya Pradesh Chronicle* (Bhopal), *Hindustan Times* (Delhi), and *Indian Fxpress* (Bombay). As regads English Weeklies, *Blitz* (Bombay) commands many more readers than those of *Illustrated Weekly* (Bombay), *Link* (Delhi), and *Organiser* (Delhi). Among English fortnightlies and monthlies figure *Film Fair* and *Picture-Post*, respectively, to be followed by *Famina* and *Caravan*. In respect of Hindi dailies, it may be said that *Nai-Duniya* (Indore) attracts largest number of readers. *Indore Samachar* (Indore), *Nava-Bharat Times* (Bombay-Delhi), *Jagarana* (Indore) and *Nava-Bharat* (Indore) follow each other in run. Besides, Vir Arjun (Delhi), *Hindustan* (Delhi) and *Yugadharma* (Jabalpur) also have restricted circulation. Prominent among Hindi Weeklies are *Hindustan* (Delhi) *Dharmayuga* (Bombay), *Sputnik* (Indore), *Panchajanya* (Jabalpur), etc., which command some circulation. Hindi monthlies, prominent among which figure *Paraga* (Bombay), *Sarita* (Delhi) and *Sarika* (Bombay), have some circulation followed by about 30 more.

Besides these, Marathi speaking readers read *Maharashtra Times* (Bombay-daily) *Navashakti* (Bombay daily) while Gujrati knowing inhabitants subscribe two dailies *Janmabhumi* and *Janashakti* (both Bombay dailies). A few Urdu papers too have some circulation in the District.

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1. Ibid.

Looking to the total circulation figures of the newspapers and periodicals coming to the District it can be said that the readership is rather poor in the District

VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANISATIONS

Available evidences reflect that since old days, activities of public utility were voluntarily carried on either by one or more individuals or the District of West Nimar. Thus they individually or jointly constructed *dharmashala* buildings, *ghats* on the banks of rivers, wells for drinking water, school buildings, etc. Early British Government records pay tributes[1] to the people of the region for their ready willingness in subscribing freely for constructing these charitable works, beneficial to the public in general and traders, travellers, officials and villagers in particular. In spite of some of these activities being jointly and voluntarily carried on for social service, there was no spirit of disciplined unity, or systematic organisation behind them. Organisations for conducting voluntary social service activities in the District have their origin in modern time.

A brief history of some of the prominent organisations together with an account of their work would give an idea of their share in the betterment and uplift of the District.

(1) Bharat Sewak Samaj, District Unit, West Nimar, Khargone

The Organisation was established in the District in 1956, with the aim of achieving all round uplift of the District with the co-operation of the inhabitants. Its branches are located in most of the Community Development Block centres and are working under the supervision of honorary Convenors. The strength of members is about 500. The branches have so far organised some camps with the co-operation of educational institutions of the District and carried on the work of social education and cleaning of villages and towns. Expenses of such camps have been borne partly by local people and partly by the Samaj. The activities of the Samaj are gradually taking root in the minds of people. It is affiliated to the Madhya Pradesh State Unit of the Samaj and working under the guidance of the State Unit.

(2) Parmarthik Swatantra Aushadhalaya, Bhikangaon

The organisation was started in 1947, by the public of the place in commemoration of India's first Independence Day to supply *Ayurvedic* medicines to the peticnts of all castes or creeds. The *Aushadhalaya* charges a nominal fee of six paise per day from a petient. The expenses are met by the voluntary contributions or donations received from the public. On an average about 12,500 persons are annually taking benefit of this dispensary. The average annual income is about Rs. 2,700, while average expenditure in the year amounts to Rs. 3,700. In recent years, the institution has suffered a loss of about Rs. 5,000.

1. Reports on the Province of Nimar, 1855, pp.6,32,40 and 295.

Sources of income include donations and contributions from the patients, sale of patent medicines, etc.

(3) Shri Digambar Jain Paramarthik Aushadhalaya, Barwaha

A Trust Deed of Rs. 25,000 was jointly made by Navalchandsa Pemasa and Besarbaiji, both residents of Barwaha, on 26th May, 1933, for the upkeep of Shri Digambar Jain Parmarthik Aushadhalaya, Barwaha, started on 1st January, 1931. The management is in the hands of seven trustees. The aim of the institution has been to supply *Ayurvedic* medicines free of charge to the petients of any caste or creed. Annually about 36,000 persons take advantage of this *Aushadhalaya.* A qualified Vaidya and two compounders are appointed. Present day capital of the Trust is about Rs. 30,000. The expenses are met from the interest on that amount.

(4) Shrimati Mateshwari Mayachandsa Digambar Jain Ayurvedic Aushadhalaya, Sanawad

Late philanthropist Mayachand Jain of Sanawad donated a cash sum of Rs. 60,000, a building of the value of Rs. 21,000 and furniture, etc., of Rs. 765 to commemorate the memory of his mother and created a trust for running an *Ayurvedic Aushadhalaya,* which is working since 1931. The trust deed was registered in 1957. The *Aushadhalaya* freely distributes *Ayurvedic* medicines to the petients of all castes and creeds. A qualified *Vaidya* and four other paid workers are employed. The institution meets its expenses with the interest realised on the capital fund. The management of the organisation is looked after by the nine trustees. On an average about 18,000 persons annually take advantage of the *Aushadhalaya.* The average annual income and expenditure of the *Aushadhalaya* are about Rs. 5,000 and Rs. 4,200 respectively.

(5) Prithviraj Sarvajanik Vachanalaya, Barwaha

Municipal Committee, Barwaha is running this unregistered reading--room since 1955. It freely affords reading facilities to the readers. It also maintains a small library containing books on Gandhism and *Bhoodan,* donated by the Government. About 100 to 150 persons daily take advantage of the reading-room, which subscribes dailies, weeklies, fortnightlies and monthlies of importance. On an average, Municipality annually spends Rs. 600 on this *Vachanalaya.*

(6) Sarvajanik Vachanalaya, Thikri

This institution was organised and registered in 1950, and 1960, respectively. It affords facilities of free reading to the public of the place and other villages situated within the radius of five miles. Newspapers and periodicals are subscribed and books purchased for the readers. The organisation receives annual grant-in-aid from the Education Department.

(7) Mahatma Gandhi Vachanalaya, Anjad

The *Vachanalaya* was established in 1925, with the subscriptions of public of Anjad. Since 1930, the *Vachanalaya* received annual grant of Rs. 120 from

the Government of Barwani State.[1] It was registered in 1956. It receives grant-in-aid from Municipality, Anjad, Mandli Committee, Anjad, and Education Department. During the years 1962 to 1965, total grant-in-aid received amounted to Rs. 7,779. Other income sources include membership fee, which is only 50 paise. This fee once paid entitles the member to enjoy life-long membership. During the years 1962-1965, about 76,426 persons received benefit of this *Vachanalaya*. It issues books and periodicals to all persons, residing within a radius of ten miles. In the years 1962 to 1965, its expenditure amounted to Rs.8,790. It is housed in its own three-storied building. The institution subscribes 44 newspapers and periodicals and maintains a library containing about 6,400 books.

(8) Sarvajanik Vachanalaya, Rajpur

In 1919, people of Rajpur started this organisation and housed it in a building constructed by them. Barwani State Government since 1930 sanctioned an annual grant of Rs. 240[1] to the library, which has two sections viz. reading-room and library. The *Vachanalaya* is registered in 1956. It is open to all for free reading of newspapers and periodicals. Number of members is 14. It recieves grant-in-aid annually from the Education Department, and Municipal Committee, Rajpur. In the years 1962 to 1965 the latter agency granted Rs. 4,000, while the former gave Rs. 867. On an average about 3,000 persons annually take benefit from the *Vachanalaya*. Its other income sources include membership fee, donations, etc. On an average its income is about Rs. 1,300 while average expenditure is about Rs. 1,500

(9) Gandhi Swadhyaya Mandal, Barwani

The *Mandal* was established in 1955, with a view to making people acquainted with Gandhism. Discussions and discourses are periodically organised by the *Mandal*. It has its own library containing books on Gandhism and other literature connected with Gandhiji and his teachings. It gives facilities for study in Gandhism to all without any charge. About 35 persons attend the *Mandal* daily. The *Mandal* is affiliated to the Mahatma Gandhi Memorial Trust, Madhya Pradesh Branch, Chhatarpur and was registered in 1957. Annual expenditure of the *Mandal* is Rs. 750. This is spent by the Mahatma Gandhi Memorial Trust, Madhya Pradesh Branch, Chhatarpur.

(10) Shri Krishna Sarvajanik Vachanalaya, Barwani

The institution was founded by the public of the town in 1904, for educational and literary progress of the people. Barwani State Government sanctioned an annual grant of Rs. 324 for the *Vachanalaya* from 1930. The organisation was registered in 1956. It has its own building, valuing about Rs. 30,000. The strength of members is 150. It is open to all. Education Department has given Rs. 6,179 as grant-is-aid to this library during 1955-56 to 1963-64. Shri Krishna Mahila *Vachanalaya*, Barwani, is affiliated to it. The latter

1. Minority Administration Report, Barwani State, 1930-31, p.120.
2. Ibid.

received grant worth Rs. 482 annually from the Education Department, since 1961-62. It was established in 1956 and registered in 1960.

(11) Zila Mahila Samiti, Khargone

The Bharatiya Gramin Mahila Sangh, Madhya Pradesh Branch, Indore, organised in 1961-62, Zila Mahila Samiti for West Nimar District with Maheshwar as its headquarters. The headquarters of the Samiti was shifted to Khargone in 1962. The *Samiti* looks after the all round welfare of the women-folk of the District. To start with, the Samiti organised Local Mahila Mandals or *Sabhas* at five places of the District. By the end of 1965 the number of such Mandals rose to 12. With the help of the Central Welfare Board, condensed course for Mahila workers of the District was started in 1962 at Maheshwar and it continued till the year 1964. The *Samiti* organised sewing-class at Maheshwar, family-planning centres at Khargone and Maheshwar, and Welfare Centres having *balwadis* and Adult Women Education centres and carried on other village welfare activities, at three places of the District. During the years 1963 to 1965 the *Samiti* organised an Industrial Training Centre at Maheshwar for women, and health-exhibitions and film-shows at a few places in the District.

By the end of the year 1965, there were 12 family-planning centres at 10 places of the District and these distributed family-planning equipments to the needy without any charge. *Balwadis* were running at five places in addition to an adult education centre and condensed cource centre.

(12) Mahila Sabha, Khargone

First attempt to organise Mahila Sabha at Khargone was made in 1947, but a duly constituted *Sabha* was formed in 1957 and it was registered in 1958. The aim and object of the *Sabha* have been to help women in achieving their economic, educational and cultural advancement. Its membership is open to women of all castes and creeds. To start with, the *Sabha* opened a sewing-class for women, which was attended by about 50 women. Diploma Course in tailoring and embroidery was also introduced. In addition to this, Nari Kalyan Sahakari Samiti has been also organised by the *Sabha*. In the field of education it has organised adult education class, *balwadis* in neighbouring two villages and classes for condensed courses for examinations of Middle and Matriculation stages.

The *Sabha* is affiliated to Bharatiya Gramin Mahila Sangh, Madhya Pradesh Branch, Indore, through the district branch of the latter. This has enabled the *Sabha* to organise about 11 Gramin Mahila Mandals in the villages of the District. A family-planning centre has also been organised at Khargone since 1963. The *Sabha* arranges various cultural programmes, lectures, debates, exhibitions and competitions. During the emergency period, the members of the *Sabha* voluntarily knitted woollen garments for army-men, then fighting on the front. The *Sabha* receives annual grants-in-aid from the Central Social Welfare Board, State Government, Municipal Committee, Khargone, and Mandi

Committee, Khargone. On an average about 300 women are benefited by the activities of the *Sabha*.

(13) Mahila Mandal, Barwani

This organisation was established and registered in 1961, and 1962, respectively, with a view to helping women-folk of the town in achieving their all round progress. The *Mandal*, in the beginning started a *balwadi*. The Municipal Council of Barwani donated a land to the *Mandal* for constructing its own building. The construction work is nearing completion. The *Mandal* has organised adult education class and tailoring class for women. On an average about 175 children and women get benefit of the activities of the *Mandal*. During the emergency period, the Mandal collected National Defence Fund. It receives grants-in-aid from the State Government and the Municipal Council, Barwani. The *Mandal* is affiliated to the Bharatiya Gramin Mahila Sangh, Madhya Pradesh Branch, Indore.

Similar *Mahila Mandals* are functioning at Sendhwa, Maheshwar and a few other places for the uplift of women.

(14) Kasturba Vanavasi Kanyashram, Niwali

This institution was organised in 1953, by the Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Trust, Kasturba-gram, Indore, for the all round welfare of the tribals of this region. In the beginning a girls' hostel and a girls' school were started for the tribals. Besides these, a *creche* for the small tribal children of surrounding villages and a health centre for tribal women and children were also organised.

From this small beginning the *Ashram* has become a service-abode in the jungle, and a centre of the following multi-purpose activities catering to the all round needs of the tribals of the District.

(1) *Kanyashram*-hostel with school upto ninth higher secondary standard, with more than 100 girls.

(2) *Balwadis* at Niwali and other surrounding villages.

(3) Children's Home—for the upkeep of a few tribal children of the age upto five years.

(4) Adult Education Centre—for the benefit of uneducated tribals of the region.

(5) Health Centre—to carry on curative work and to teach the tribals the art of healthy living. The staff of the Centre caters to the need of about 34 villages around the *Ashram*.

(6) *Mahila Mandla*—established in 1963, to discuss their own problems and to help them to take to craft learning, spinning, weaving, tailoring, kitchen-gardening, etc.

(7) Study Circle—to hold meetings and to organise studied talks on different subjects of the interest to tribals. A library and a reading-room are also there.

(8) *Girijan Sangh*—this tribal organisation, started in 1964 and jointed by 66 tribals, is to fight out-dated traditions and customs, which have become a dead burden on the tribals.

(9) Orientation Camps—these camps are run for teaching cleanliness, popularising education and forming healthy habits.

To carry on all these activities the *Ashram* receives help from the State Government, the Central Social Welfare Board and the Gandhi Smarak Nidhi, Madhya Pradesh Unit.

(15) Shrimati Dansheela Besarbai Digambar Jain Kanya Pathashala, Barwaha

This *Kanya Pathashala* was first established in 1913. A trust deed was registered on the 8th December, 1931. Besarbai had donated Rs. 40,000 in cash to the institution and a land for constructing a *Pathashala* building. Subsequently, the building was constructed at the cost of Rs. 13,000. The *Pathashala* gives primary education to girls of all castes and creeds. It also imparts moral and religious education as well as knowledge of elementary tailoring. Trustees through the agency of secretary manage the school. Four paid lady teachers are engaged. Annually, 75 girls receive benefit from the school. The organisation's annual expenditure is met with the interest on the capital. Its branch is running at Bhanpura in Mandsore District.

(16) Bal Shiksha Niketan, Khargone

The *Niketan* was first established by the public of Khargone in June, 1949. in order to educate children through Montessori system. It is open to children of all castes and creeds. The public of Khargone has also helped the *Niketan* by giving donations for constructing its own building, which cost about Rs.32,000. The building is also used by Mahila Sabha, Khargone, for organising and conducting its activities. The *Niketan* was registered in June, 1955. About 80 children take advantage of the *Niketan*. The organisation receives grant-in-aid from the Education Department.

(17) Bal Vinay Mandir, Barwaha

With public donations, the institution was started on 26 January. 1961. *Balmandir* is held in Jain *Dharmashala*. On a land received in donation, a building is soon to be constructed. Rs. 10,000 are donated by Surajlal Anokchand Jain to commemorate the memory of his mother Sewabai, whose name will be associated with the *Mandir*. A managing Committee looks after the management of the *Mandir*. It is attended by about 75 children.

(18) Shri Jyoti Mandir Vachanalaya, Barwani

Govindrao Pandit, a Government Official, started this organisation in 1954, for which monetary help was given by Dhannalal Biharilal Sarraf of Barwani. The organisation was started to help the masses in general and children in particular, in achieving their physical, mental and cultural development. To start

with, the *Mandir* began to lend books for reading, without charging any fee. Classes for teaching Sanskrit also are organised. About 30 to 40 children take advantage of these classes every year. The *Mandir* was registered in 1956. The strength of members is about 115. The Education Department gives grant-in-aid to the organisation.

(19) Bal Vidya Mandir, Maheshwar

The *Mandir* was established on the 8th August, 1957, by private contributions and donations. The aim and object of the organisation are to achieve development of children by providing them education through Montessori system. The *Mandir* is open to all classes of children, aged below five. The institution has its own building of the value of Rs. 15,000, a garden, as well as a playground with all games equipments. Nearly, 70 children are annually benefited by this *Mandir*. The *Mandir* was registered in 1958. It receives grant-in-aid from the Education Department.

(20) Sarvoday Sadhanashram, Thibgaon

A band of workers, leading a life in Gandhian way and wedded to the constructive programme, as was laid down by Gandhiji, established the organisation in 1963. Its aim and objects are to achieve all round rural uplift through various development and constructive activities. Initially its activities included agricultural improvements, scientific animal husbandry, *Khadi* and other village industries, basic education, health and hygiene, etc. To start with, the organisation centred its attention on basic education, agricultural and animal husbandry. The body is registered and has a strength of 96 members. The *Sadhanashram* is creating enthusiasm and interest among rural population in its activities. Khadi Gramodyoga Bhandars at Khargone and Sanawad are affiliated to this *Sadhanashram*.

(21) Thibgaon Saghan Kshetra Vikas Samiti, Thibgaon

With an aim and object of all round socio-economic development of the area, Khadi and Village Industries Commission established this *Samiti* in October, 1956. The *Samiti* is the former's local representative organisation for implementation of Commission's intensive development programme at Thibgaon, a centre of constructive activities. The main activity is centred round the production of *Khadi*. It has also been the function of the *Samiti* to survey the villages and plan programme for village development by best utilisation of their resources. Thus certain village industries like oil extraction, pottery-making and cotton spinning and weaving were organised at Bargaon, where Gramodyoga Samiti has been organised. This plan programme will be extended by the *Samiti* to more villages, when facilities and trained workers become available. The Vikas Samiti has been registered. The number of members is about 75.

CHAPTER XIX

PLACES OF INTEREST

ANJAD

(22° 03'N; 25° 09'E)

This important municipal town of Rajpur Tahsil of the District lies at a distance of about 16 kilometres to the north-west of the tahsil headquarters. Both the places are linked by a road on which regular buses ply on hire. It is situated at a distance of about 16 kilometres to the east of Barwani, with which it is connected by a road. Regular buses ply between both the towns.

There is a temple dedicated to Vireshvara Mahadeva and another dedicated to Nagari Mata. The latter is situated on a small hill. A fair is annually held in honour of Mahadeva in the month of Phalguna.

It is one of the important retail marketing centres of the District. A number of oil mills and cotton ginning and pressing factories are working here. The town is electrified and has schools for education of boys and girls upto higher secondary standards, sub-post office, public call-office, telegraph office, police station, civil dispensary, maternity home, family planning clinic, veterinary dispensary, library, etc. The town occupies an area of 1,900 hectares and according to the Census of 1961, it has a population of 10,525 persons, as against 4,501 in 1901.

AVASGARH

(21° 47'N; 74° 52'E)

The hill of Avasgarh is situated in Sendhwa Tahsil of the District at a distance of about 48 kilometres from Barwani to its south-east. The hill can be reached by bullock-cart.

The importance of the place lies in its old fort, now in ruins and a few broken images found near the fort. Tradition says that one of the descendents of Maharanas of Chitor probably migrated into the valley of the Narmada sometimes between the 12th and 14th Century A.D., and established his capital at Avasgarh. A legend runs that sometimes during 17th Century A.D., a *sadhu* (saint) came to Barwani. Once Rana Chandra Singh (or Sur Singh, former's successor) by chance met the *sadhu* and began to respect him. On the *sadhu's* advice he removed the royal capital to Barwani from Avasgarh. After the death

of the sage, a *samadhi* (tomb) was erected at Barwani, which is still there. A more probable account, however, is that Chandra Singh seeing that Avasgarh not conveniently situated, established the town of Barwani formerly known as Siddhanagar, and made it his capital.

BALAKWADA

(22° 00′N; 75° 32′E)

This large village of Kasrawad Tahsil is situated at a distance of about 16 kilometres to the south-west of the tahsil headquarters on the bank of the river Satak. Buses are available to reach the place.

It appears to be an old village and it is mentioned in *Ain-i-Akbari* as a *mahal* in *sarkar* Bijagarh. Balakwara is said to have been famous for its sweet melons. The village contains an old *baori* which is said to have been constructed by Ahilyabai. There are two old temples dedicated, respectively, to Lakshmi Narayana and Rama, for the maintenance of which *inam* lands were given. To the east of the village and on the bank of the Satak river stands one more old temple of Bhavani. The deity is held in great reverence by the people in the vicinity.

Weekly market is held on every Wednesday. The village has middle and primary schools, police-station, branch post-office, ungraded dispensary, veterinary dispensary, out-lying veterinary dispensary, cattle breeding extension unit, *gram* and *nyaya panchayats*. The village covers an area of 911.76 hectares and according to the Census of 1961, it has a population of 2,121 persons, as against 814 in 1901.

BALWADA

(22° 23′N; 75° 59′E)

This large village of Barwaha Tahsil, situated in the Vindhya range to the north-west of the tahsil headquarters, is at a distance of about 19 kilometres on the Khandwa-Indore road. Situated on a small stream called Khalar, the village, being a railway station on the Khandwa-Ajmer metre gauge line of the Western Railway, is also linked by railway with Barwaha, Khandwa and Indore.

It was a stage on the route from the Deccan and is mentioned by Tieffenthaler. There is a large tank near the village. The local cottage industries include bamboo-basket making, potteries, carpentry, etc. A weekly market is held on every Sunday.

The village has *balwadi*, primary and middle schools, adult school, *ayurvedic* and veterinary dispensaries, *gram panchayat*, forest range office, police-station, branch post-office and two *dharmashalas*. It covers an area of about 1,688 hectares and according to the Census of 1961, it is populated by 1,579

persons, as against 1,136 in 1901. Village Koravad, lying at a distance of about three kilometres to the south-east of Balwada, has an old *baori* and a temple of Shiva.

BARUD

(21° 45'N; 75° 32'E)

It is a large village in Khargone Tahsil, lying to the south-west of the tahsil headquarters at a distance of about 11 kilometres. An unmetalled road links the village with Khargone.

The village is mentioned in *Ain-i-Akbari* as the head quarters of a *mahal* in *sarkar* Bijagarh of *subah* Malwa. It was *pargana* headquarters till 1904. Near the village is situated a temple dedicated to Bhairava and carries a high local reputation. The deity is invoked during epidemics. A fair in its honour is held on the second of the bright half of Magha. The village is known for its betel-leaf cultivation and is an important retail marketing centre. A weekly market is held on every Friday.

The village has schools for primary, middle, and higher secondary education, branch post-office, civil dispensary, cattle breeding extension unit, out-lying veterinary dispensary and police-station. It occupies an area of 725.60 hectares and has a population of 5,065 according to the Census of 1961, as against 2,653 persons in 1901.

BARWAHA

(22° 15'N; 76° 02'E)

This headquarters town of the Tahsil of the same name occupies a very picturesque site on the bank of the river Choral, a tributory of the Narmada river. It is about 77 kilometres from Khargone, the district headquarters, with which it is connected by road on which regular buses ply. It is also linked by rail and road with Khandwa and Indore and besides railway trains, regular buses are available for the passengers. It is a railway station on Khandwa-Ajmer metre gauge section of the Western Railway.

It is said that the old name of the place was Babulikheda, but according to old Persian *sanads*[1], the *pargana* Barwaha was called Jaitpuri during the middle of the seventeenth Century. Barwaha was founded, sometime during the later part of the reign of Aurangzeb, by Rana Surajmal Tomar, the son of Raja Durjan Sal an important local chieftain, *jagirdar* and *zamindar* of *pargana* Jaitpuri, under Emperor Shah Jahan. Raja Durjan Sal claimed decent from Raja Anangpal of Delhi, who was a Mughal *mansabdar*. In the year 1708-10 Surajmal received the *zamindari* of *pargana* Jaitpuri as hereditary free gift from Emperor Bahadur Shah. Tieffenthalar has referred to the place. In Holkar's

1. These sanads are with the Rana of Barwaha.

regime it was a favourite resort with Maharaja Shivaji Rao Holkar. Two palaces, known as Daryao Mahal and Narbada Mahal were built by the ruling family, one of which is on the ridge overlooking the Choral valley. There is also an old fort constructed by Rana Surajmal's son and successor Rana Sabal Singh in 1737.

The town has a well-known perennial spring known as Nageshvara kund. An old temple dedicated to Jayanti-Mata stands near the town and an important annual fair lasting for a fortnight (bright half of Chaitra) (March) is held in honour of that deity. A *dehara* of the well known saint Singaji is also near the town and an annual fair is held on the 15th day of the bright half of Ashvina.

Hematite exists in large quantities at Barwaha and was formerly worked. Deposits of fluorite, an important and scarce mineral, required in the manufacture of steel and aluminium, have been found at a spot over six kilometres east of Barwaha town. The deposits were spotted during an investigation carried on by the State Directorate of Mining in the area around Barwaha in the field season of 1965. The local cottage industries of the town include bamboo-basket making, potteries, weaving, tanning, shoe making, carpentry, etc. Civic administration of the town is looked after by the Municipality. The town is electrified and has basic training institute, schools for primary, middle and higher secondary education of boys and girls, Sanskrit *pathashala*, *nyaya panchayat*, police-station, public call office, sub-post office, telegraph and telephone exchange offices, allopathic and *ayurvedic* (private) dispensaries, veterinary hospital, poultry farm, cattle breeding unit, artificial insemination unit, maternity home, family planning centre, primary health centre, *goshala* (private), municipal reading-room, library and inspection bungalow.

Being the headquarters of the Tahsil, Development Block and *Mandal Panchayat*, the town contains offices of Tahsil, Forest Department, Agriculture Department and Development Department.

Barwaha has been growing trade centre and its principal trade is in the commodities like cotton, jowar and groundnuts. Cotton ginning and pressing factories and State Distillery are located here. There is a branch of the State Bank of India. It is also one of the most important retail marketing centres of the District. A weekly market is held on every Tuesday. The town occupies an area of 688.71 hectares and according to the Census of 1961, its population is 11,188, as against 5,902 persons in 1901.

BARWANI

(22°02′ N; 74°54′ E)

This headquarters town of the Tahsil of the same name remained, prior to 1948, the capital of the former princely State known as Barwani, for a consi-

derably long period. It is situated at a distance of about 88 kilometres from the District headquarters town, Khargone, to its north-west and about five kilometres away from the southern bank of the river Narmada. Metalled roads connect the town with the other tahsil headquarters and important towns of the District, including the District headquarters. Regular buses ply on all these roads.

The town is ancient one, and recently yielded tools Series[1] II and a copper-plate grant of Maharaja Subandhu (5th Century A.D.). Once it was named Badnagar as is seen from the inscription, on Satan Rangara *baori* in the town, dated in Vikram Samvat 1760 (A.D. 1703). In many of the old *sanads* granted for villages, the town has been referred to by its still another name Siddhanagar. An old temple to Mahadeva is still known as the temple of Siddhanath. This temple "originally set by the Jains, was afterwards seized by the Shaivites."[1] Of the other important temples, those dedicated to Ganapati, popularly called Wani Vinayaka, and Kalikamata are best known. The construction of the former is ascribed to Agastya, a famous sage of the Hindu mythology. The town also contains four *sati* pillars in a ruinous condition and old monasteries, established by Mahants. Of the many old *baoris*, Champa Baori, built in the palace, is the finest. Of the palaces Sagar-Vilas and Sukh-Vilas are worth visiting.

Because of its growing trade this municipal town has maintained its steady growth. It is one of the important trade centres of the District. Weekly market is held on every Sunday. The town is electrified and water is supplied through pipe-line in some of the parts of the town. Being an important tahsil headquarters town, it has a number of Government offices such as tahsil office, offices of Sub-Divisional Officers (Revenue, P.W.D., Police, and Forest), Development Block, Inspector of Weights and Measures, Excise Department, Malaria Eradication, Civil Judge, Additional District Judge, Instructor of Handloom Centre, Telephone exchange, Sub-post, Telegraph and Public call. Among the educational institutions of the town figure degree college, schools for primary, middle and higher secondary education, basic training school, survey training school, carpentry training centre and Sanskrit *pathshala*. The town has also District Hospital, V.J.W. Hospital, Maternity Home, Family Planning Centre and Mobile unit, Veterinary Hospital with Poultry Unit, Artificial Insemination Centre, Circuit House, and Dak Bungalow. There are *dharmashalas* and offices of local municipality, *nyaya panchayat* and *mandal panchayat*.

The town, i.e. Barwani Kasba and Barwani Municipality, respectively, cover areas of 1,166.71 hectares and 261.43 hectares. According to the Census of 1961, both these parts contain a population of 17,924 persons, as against 6,277 in 1901.

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1. Indian Archaeology—A Review, 1958-59, p. 72.
1. Barwani State Gazetteer, p. 40.

BAWANGAJA

(22°02′ N; 74°53′ E)

This is the only important hill peak in Barwani Tahsil. It is situated at a distance of about eight kilometers to the south of Barwani, with which it is connected by a metalled road. Regular buses ply on the road.

Bawangaja (fifty-two yards) hill, a place of considerable sanctity to the Jains, derives its name from the popular idea as to the height of the gigantic figure of the first Jain *Tirthankara* Rishabhanatha. It is in standing posture and its height is 72 feet. "In[1] a picturesque site such as the Jains have always loved to choose for their places of worship, half way up the steep ascent of the hill stands this colossal figure cut out in high relief in the face of the rock". When the colossal figure was first discovered it was somewhat weather-worn but subsequently the Digambar Jains of the region took measures for the conservation and repairs of the figure. On the summit stands a small temple made of the remains of an older building. An inscription shows that the earlier structure was built by Mina Ramchandra in Vikram Samvat 1223 (1166 A.D.) and was repaired in 1516 (1459 A.D.) in the time of Mahmud Khilji of Malwa. At the foot of the hill are many Digambar Jain temples and *dharmashalas* for pilgrims. Jain community regards this place as one of their *Nirvana Kshetras*. It is referred to in an old Jain Prakrit work.[2] The passage runs "Bow to Indrajit and Kumbhakarna, who obtained Nirvana (Salvation) from the crest of the Chulgiri (Bawangaja) in the south of Barwani, a good town."[3] Pilgrims visit this place through out the open season. An annual fair, attended by a large number of Digambar Jains in honour of Rishabhanatha, is held on the full-moon day of Pausha.

At a short distance from the hill, a small forest village named Bawangaja is located. The village has a primary school and a population of 107 persons according to the Census of 1961.

BHAWARGARH

(21°35′ N; 75°04′ E)

A small village in the Satpuras, about 16 kilometres to the south-west of Sendhwa, the tahsil headquarters, is situated at a little distance to the west of the Bombay-Agra National Highway.

The main attraction of the village is an old fort, called Bhawargarh or Borgarh, which stands in a ruinous condition at the top of a pass on the road. The pass is over three kilometres in length and is known by various names such as Gwalanghat, Sendhwa pass, or Bhawarghat. The fort was built in

1. Ibid., p. 6.
2. Ibid., p. 39.
3. *Vadwanivara Nayare Dakkhina Bhayammi Choolgiri Sihare* I
Indajida Kumbhayano Nirvana Gaya Namo Tesim II *Nivvui Kandam*, *Gatha* 12.

Maratha style, apparently to guard this pass in the Satpuras. It is said that the Bhil leader, Khaja Naik, who during the days of great uprising of 1857 gave much troubles, to the British Government, made his headquarters here for a long time.

The forest village Bhawargarh has a primary school and according to the Census of 1961, it is inhabited by 180 persons.

BHIKANGAON

(21°52′ N; 75°58′ E)

This headquarters town of the Tahsil of the same name lies at a distance of about 39 kilometres from Khargone, the District headquarters to its north-east. Both the towns are linked by road on which regular buses ply.

This place finds mention in *Ain-i-Akbari* as the headquarters of a *mahal* in *sarkar* Bijagarh under *Subah* Malwa. It was one of the regular stages on the old route from Deccan and is mentioned by Tavernier and others. There are signs of its having once been a considerably large town. An old wall having gates, a mosque containing two inscriptions dated in Hijri Year 1053 (1643-44 A.D.) and an old *baori*, construction of which is attributed to Ahilyabai, point out its antiquity. There is also an old *garhi* (mudfort) at Bhikangaon.

It is one of the important retail marketing centres of the District. A weekly market is held on every Tuesday. Being the headquarters of a tahsil, besides the tahsil office, court of the Civil Judge, sub-office of the Central Excise, office of the Development Block, forest range office, sub-post office, telegraph office, manual exchange centre of telephones and police-station. The town also contains schools for primary, middle and higher secondary education, primary health centre, family planning clinic, maternity home, *ayurvedic* dispensary (private) veterinary hospital, artificial insemination unit and inspection bungalow. A religious annual fair is held in honour of Nilkantheshvara Mahadeva and it lasts for about a fortnight. The town covers an area of 804-52 hectares. According to the Census of 1961, it has a population of 4,350 persons, as against 272 in 1901.

BIJAGARH

(21°40′ N; 75°21′ E)

This old hill fort, constructed in the Satpuras, is situated 32 kilometres to the south-west of Khargone, the District headquarters, and can be reached by bullock-cart.

According to Ferishta, Bijagarh fort was built in the time of Paramara King Bhoja, but local tradition associates its construction with Raja Bija, one of the Gauli Kings, who is said to have occupied Nimar in the 14th Century.

Sculptural remains[1] of the Paramara period are located in the fort. During the years 1534-1542 a Rajput chief, Bhopat Rai (Bhupat Singh), an ally of Mallu Khan (Kadir Shah) of Malwa held the fort and as it was never subjugated by Sher Shah, it was undoubtedly held by the same chief till March, 1562, when it fell to Akbar. It was then taken by Pir Muhammad Khan, the Governor of Malwa, who attacked Bijagarh. After a desperate fight, Pir Muhammad Khan took it by storm putting the garrison to the sword.

Ain-i-Akbari mentions Bijagarh as the headquarters of a *sarkar* in *subah* Malwa. In 1707, the fort was held by Mohan Singh, the younger brother of Rana Jodh Singh of Barwani, who later became the Raja of Barwani. He was the rebellious *zamindar* in the difficult mountainous country of Bijagarh, to whom Raja Shahu went, when he was set at liberty by Prince Azam. In 1719, Nizam-ul-Mulk was appointed Governor of Malwa. Next year, however incensed at the methods of the Sayad brothers, he threw off allegiance and proceeded towards the Deccan being joined by Rustam Beg, who was then holding Bijagarh. In 1739, by the convention of Barai Sarai, *sarkar* Bijagarh was made over to Peshwa. By 1778, the whole of Nimar had passed into the possession of the Maratha leaders, Bijagarh falling to Holkar. The fort now stands in ruined condition.

The hill, on which the fort is situated, is about two and half kilometres in circumference. The fort has five gates. Three of these face north, while the other two respectively face east and south. Near the northern gate are two *tankas*, respectively known as the Ganesh Tanka and Amir (Amrit) Tanka. The latter is also called *Athag* or unfathomable. Both are formed by excavations into the hillside and are underground. Besides these, there are three more tanks situated on the hill itself. One of them is known as the Chhatri talao, while the other two are called Sas Babu talao (ponds of mother-in-law and daughter-in-law). Near these ponds stands *chhatri* of a Gauli King. A piece of level ground near the tank is shown as an old site of the local market, and though now overgrown with jungle, traces of stones and masonry are still visible there.

A temple dedicated to the Tanakeshwara Mahadeva or otherwise called the Bijagarh Mahadeva stands to the east of the fort. An annual fair lasting for three days attracts pilgrims ranging from 1,500 to 3,000. The last and principal day of the fair is Shivaratri. Just over the *lingam* water is kept dripping from a spring in the side of the hill.

At a short distance from this temple is shown a place or *sthan* of Parvati. A round stone, with the impressions of two feet (*paduka*) on it, lies near a small hollow containing water, which is sipped by people as being blessed by the goddess. None is allowed to dip his fingers in the water as it is supposed that it would be an act of sacrilege to do so.

1. Indian Archaeology—A Review, 1959-60, p. 69.

Near Bijagarh two large rock-cut caves each consisting of pillared-hall, respectively of 40×30 ft. and 30×20 ft. size, are recently discovered.[1] They contain neither any painting nor sculpture.

BIJASANI

(21° 34′ N; 75° 04′ E)

This small village of Sendhwa Tahsil, lying at the foot of Bhawarghat, is about 20 kilometres to the south-west of Sendhwa. It is about two kilometres west of Bombay-Agra National Highway.

Importance of the village lies in its old temple of goddess Bijasani, which attracts people from distant places. An old tank of considerable size with stone-steps on all sides rebuilt later on, is located in front of the temple. Fairs are half-yearly held in honour of the deity on the ninth of bright half of Ashvina and Chaitra. Two versions are current as regards the builder of the temple, one version stating that it was built by a Rana of Barwani and another that it was erected by Guman Naik, father of Khaja Naik. The Rana probably repaired or restored it.

The village has a primary school. It occupies an area of 511.52 hectares and according to the Census of 1961, its population is 374 persons, as against 26 in 1901.

BISTAN

(21° 40′ N; 75° 41′ E)

This large village of Khargone Tahsil lies to the south-east of the tahsil headquarters at a distance of about 21 kilometres and is connected by an unmetalled road on which regular buses on hire ply between Khargone and Bistan in open season.

It is an important retail marketing centre in the tahsil. Weekly market is held on every Monday. A large fair, called Bhairav ka mela, is held in the month of Vaishakha and is attended by about four to five thousand persons. Another fair known as Bhagoria mela is annually held from the 8th bright half of Phalguna and lasts for eight days.

The village has two primary schools, higher secondary school, civil dispensary, family planning clinic, branch post-office, veterinary dispensary, hostel for *adiwasi* students, *gram panchayat* and *nyaya panchayat*. The village occupies an area of 690 hectares and according to the Census of 1961, it has a population of 3,741 persons.

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1. Ibid.

BRAHMANGAON

(22° 7' N; 75° 17' E)

This large village of Rajpur Tahsil is situated on the south bank of the river Narmada. It is to the north-east of the tahsil headquarters. An unmetalled road of over nine kilometres in length, branches off at village Dawana for Brahmangaon from the road connecting Anjad, Talwada Deb and Thikri. There is a facility of ferry on the Narmada at Brahmangaon.

The village is an old one and *Ain-i-Akbari* mentions it as the headquarters of a *mahal* under *sarkar* Bijagarh of *subah* Malwa. In later period it was also the headquarters of a *pargana* of the same name and since 1916 headquarters of Segaon *pargana*. There are several *ghats* here on the Narmada. Among the many local temples, temples of Sukanand and Mukheshvara Mahadeva are said to have been erected by Ahilyabai. To the south of the village is the Kharya *nullah*, where the remains of salt-works were noticed. The village has primary school, ungraded dispensary, family planning clinic, out-lying veterinary dispensary and branch post-office.

The village occupies an area of 739·76 hectares and according to the Census of 1961, its population is 1,408 persons, as against 1,399 in 1901.

CHAINPUR

(21° 43' N; 76° 00' E)

The village, situated on the east bank of the river Beda, lies to the south of Bhikangaon, its tahsil headquarters, at a distance of about 23 kilometres. An unmetalled road connects the village with the tahsil headquarters and can be reached by cart.

It is mentioned in *Ain-i-Akbari* as the headquarters of a *mahal* in *sarkar* Bijagarh. Its name then was Chainpur Chamri. In the village stands a small fort on the arch of which there is a stone inscription in Arabic characters containing the name of Rana Raibha Singh, once a *zamindar* of *pargana* Chainpur.

The village has *ayurvedic* dispensary, branch post-office, and police station. It covers an area of 726.41 hectares, and according to the Census of 1961, it is occupied by 795 persons, as against 468 in 1921.

CHOLI

(22° 15' N; 75° 43' E)

This large village of Maheshwar Tahsil lies at a distance of about 15 kilometres to the north-west of the tahsil headquarters with which it is connected by a country track.

The village is an old one and has yielded tools of series[1] II. It finds mention in the *Ain-i-Akbari* as the civil headquarters of Choli-Maheshwar *mahal* in *sarkar* Mandu. Ahilyabai removed the official headquarters from Choli to Maheshwar and this resulted in the decline of the importance of the place. The village contains two old temples, respectively, of Ganapati (having an image of the height of nine feet) and Bhairava. A fragment of a stone inscription has been found in the latter temple. In front of the temple stands an old *dipstambha* (lamp pillar), on which a lamp was lighted and it was visible from the palace of Rupamati at Mandu. Ruins of some old Jain temples are also located in the village. A temple dedicated to Gauri-Somanatha was constructed by Gautamabai, the wife of Malhar Rao I, and a *sabha-mandap* (meeting hall) in front, by Ahilyabai. An annual fair, attended by people from distant places, is held in honour of Bhairava on the 14th and 15th of the bright half of Vaishakha. There is also a large tank at Choli.

The village has primary and middle schools, ungraded dispensary, *gram panchayat*, and branch post-office. A weekly market is held at Choli on Friday. It covers an area of 1,883 hectares and according to the Census of 1961, it contains a population of 1,934 persons, as against 1,605 in 1901.

DASNAVAL

(21° 48′ N; 75° 47′ E)

This is one of the large villages of Khargone Tahsil. It lies to the south-east of the tahsil headquarters at a distance of over 19 kilometres. The village is connected with Khargone by a road *pacca* upto Ghugariakhedi and the rest fair weather.

The importance of the village lies only in its annual fair held on the 15th bright half of Vaishakha in honour of Takshaka, the serpent god, who carries reputation for curing snake-bites. The village has primary school, *ayurvedic* dispensary and branch post-office. It covers an area of 1,404.67 hectares and according to the Census of 1961, it has a population of 1,868 persons, as against 220 in 1901.

GOGAON

(21° 55′ N; 75° 45′ E)

It is one of the towns of Khargone Tahsil, lying at a distance of about 18 kilometres on Khargone-Sanawad Road to the north-east of the tahsil headquarters. Regular buses on hire are availlable to reach the village.

The place is ancient one. It is surrounded by an old wall three sides of which are of stone while the fourth, facing the river Beda, is of mud. The village is an important retail marketing centre. Once it was notable for its

1. Ibid., 1956-57, p. 10.

calico printing. There is an oil mill also. A large annual fair is held here lasting for 11 days (from the 6th day of the bright half of Pausha to the 1st day of the dark half of Magha).

The town has schools for primary, middle and higher secondary education, primary health centre, family planning clinic, branch post-office, veterinary dispensary, cattle breeding extension unit, and police-station. It occupies an area of 762.02 hectares and according to the Census of 1961, its population is 4,744, as against 2,564 persons in 1901.

HARANPHAL (The deer's leap)

(22°03' N, 74°41' E)

Near Morkatta village *(22°02' N; 75°44' E)* some 22 kilometres to the north-west of the tahsil headquarters Barwani, the river Narmada narrows considerably and is blocked by huge masses of basaltic rock rising more than 10 feet above the level of the stream, leaving three narrow channels through which the current rushes with great force. The spot is called Haranphal or the deer's leap, a deer supposed to be able to spring across at this spot. A fair-weather road connects Barwani with the place.

JALGON

(21°42' N; 74°46' E)

This small village of Sendhwa Tahsil lies slightly to the south-west of the tahsil headquarters and to the north-east of Pansemal, the former headquarters of a *pargana*. It is about four kilometres from the latter place.

The village contains an old fort having five towers. On the eastern tower an old sword, traditionally said to be belonging to the early ruler of the house of Avasgarh, has been fixed. It was worshipped during Dassera and Navaratri and expenses of the worship were borne by the Barwani *Darbar*. The priest used to get a revenue from the grant of land for his service.

In the village an annual fair known as Bandhareshvara mela is held in the dark half of Phalguna from 13th and lasts for three days. There is a primary school in the village. It covers an area of 607.83 hectares and has a population of 282 persons according to the Census of 1961. Its population in 1901 was 209.

KARAI

(22°17' N; 75°48' E)

This large village of Maheshwar Tahsil is situated on the bank of a stream called Malan, to the north-east of the tahsil headquarters, at a distance of about 26 kilometres. A metalled road goes upto Dhargaon village of the same tahsil (Dhamnod-Barwaha Road) and further a *cutcha* road links the village with Dhargaon.

The village contains Gangadhar Mahadeva's temple, built in the time of Ahilyabai, and a reservoir called Ganga Zhira of great religious importance, near the temple. People from distant places visit the reservoir. The village has also an old Jain temple. To the south of the village lies an old temple dedicated to Naganatha.

The village has a cotton *mandi* (market) and a ginning factory. It is an important retail marketing centre, where a weekly market is held on every Sunday. It covers an area of 456 hectares. According to the Census of 1961, the village is populated by 1,248 persons as against 961 in 1901.

KASRAWAD

(22°8′ N; 75°37′ E)

This tahsil headquarters of a Tahsil of the same name is over 35 kilometres to the north of Khargone, the district headquarters and about five kilometres to the south of the Narmada, on Khargone-Mandleshwar road. Regular buses ply on the road.

The region in which the town is situated has yielded very important remains of a Buddhist establishment and ancient pottery as a result of excavations carried out during the period 1936-1939. The excavated site lies at a distance of about five kilometres to the south of Kasrawad and is known as Itbardi (a mound of bricks).

The finds[1] include (1) household pots, (ii) bricks, (iii) tiles, (iv) drain pipes, (v) spindles and (vi) miscellaneous objects. (i)House-hold pots are of various kinds and of different sizes such as saucers, bowls with a small base, basins, *thalis* with flat base, water jars like *lota, surahi ghada, mataka* and storage jars. The Kasrawad pottery in many cases is wonderfully glazed inside and outside. It also bears various symbols like a leaf, flower, fish, cock, *swastika* and others. A few solid circular objects with knobs are found. Two storage jars tapering towards the mouth are found almost intact. The bigger one measures 4′ 3½″ deep and 5′9″ in circumference. The other one, upper portion of which is lost measures 2′4″ in its present height and 4′5″ in circumference. (ii) The remains of old *stupa* probably of the Mauryan age are discovered here. The bricks of large size measuring 1′8″ x 1′4″ are found in a large number. A few are incised with peculiar symbols. Such bricks are also recovered from some other places in the District such as Maheshwar, Sendhwa, etc. (iii) Triangular bricks like those found at Mohen-jo-daro were also recovered from this site. Peculiar flat tiles measuring 1′2″ × 7″ and having a hole in the upper portion were also found here. Ujjain excavation yielded similar flat tiles. (iv) The drain pipes which are tappering have thick rings on the out side and are interesting. They measure 1′5″ in diameter and were found in broken condition. (v) Spindles having a hole in each in the centre were recovered in abundance. (vi) A large number

1. A short Guide Book to The Central Museum, Indore, 1961, pp. 11-13.

of small perforated objects with an opening at the bottom and small objects like pinnacles with a hole in the base measuring 2" in length, were found. In addition, a large number of dabbers like round clay objects were also recovered.

The most characteristic feature of Kasrawad pottery is that in many cases it is inscribed in Brahmi script of the second or first century B.C. The language is Prakrit. Most of the inscribed pieces of pottery are very small and except in rare cases no two of these can be joined together. Deciphered inscribed pieces give, besides proper names of persons, names of places also such as Sihala (Ceylon) and Takesilie (Taxila). One of the pieces of pots is inscribed with the letters "Nigatasa vihare dipe".

In Kasrawad excavations the specimens of Northern Black Polished Wares, Black and Red; Red Burnished, Black Burnished and designed wares have also been found. One of the Northern Black Polished shirds is inscribed with letters 'Da' in Brahmi.

The site had also yielded a large number of punchmarked coins, cast copper coins and iron objects such as a number of nails of different length. One nail is peculiar and has two handles embossed with the face of a dog, while others are round headed. A few conch-shells and pieces of bones in a small pot are also noticed. It is to be specially noted that neither terracotta toys nor figures of human beings, animals, birds, etc., were recovered. In Kasrawad excavations, a stone inscription engraved on a slab measuring 1'9" x 1'7" was found. The inscription is very much worn out. Only a few letters here and there can be deciphered. Words Kasanagaka, Putasa, and Paputasa can easily be read. It belongs to the second or first Century B.C.

All the movable articles discovered at Kasrawad have been removed from the site to Indore and they are preserved in the Central Museum there.

At a distance of about two and a half kilometres from the town, there is an old tank called 'Sarai'. There is also an old mosque here and a tomb of Vilayat Shah Vali on the summit of a hill close by. To the west of this hill stands a temple dedicated to Gangaleshvara Mahadeva and to the east of the town there is also an old Bhawani temple. *Khaddar* and *Niwar*, manufactured here, were of good quality. The town is electrified and local industries now include weaving, oil-mill, and cotton ginning.

It is an important trade and retail marketing centre, where weekly market is held on every Sunday. The town contains schools for primary, middle and higher secondary education sub-post office and telegraph office, primary health centre, maternity home, family planning clinic, veterinary hospital, artificial insemination centre, police-station and dak bungalow. Besides these, there are offices of tahsil, Civil Judge II class, Excise Inspectors, Assistant Inspectress of Schools, Deputy Ranger of Forests, Development Block, Municipality,

Kendra Panchayat and *Nyaya Panchayat*. The town covers an area of 594.89 hectares and according to the Census of 1961, it has a population of 5,927 persons, as against 3,207.

KASRAWAD (CHHOTI)

(22°05' N; 75°38' E)

This village of Kasrawad Tahsil lies five kilometres to the south of the tahsil headquarters on the road connecting Mandleshwar with Khargone. Buses are availabe to reach Kasrawad Khurd.

Near the village, the site of a large old town called Kama is shown. An old gate and remains in the form of foundations of old buildings, etc., are also seen on the site. To the east of the village stands a large old image of *Nandi* (the sacred bull of Shiva). There are an old *baori* built by Ahilyabai, a temple dedicated to Rama and a tomb of Kalekhan Pir, worshipped on the Dassera day.

The village covers an area of 1,907 hectares and according to the Census of 1961, its population is 1.199 persons as against 544 in 1901.

KATKUT

(22°25' N; 76°07' E)

This important large village of Barwaha Tahsil lies to the north-east of Barwaha at a distance of about 26 kilometres. It is connected with Barwaha by a partly metalled and partly unmetalled road. Regular buses ply from Sendhwa to Katkut via Barwaha.

The village has yielded an old image of Ganesha (4' 3" x 3' 1"). It depicts the god with his vehicle mouse. In a niche near the left corner of the image is a seated figure of a three headed goddess, probably Brahmani with four hands. Near Katkut two old inscriptions are found on a temple and a well. One of them is dated in Vikram Samvat 1700 (1643 A.D.) and it refers to the name of King Bridhipal Deva.

It was a flourshing town in 1800, when fifty iron smelting furnaces were working but due to Pindari menace most of them were closed in subsequent period. In 1820, only two of these were found working. The ore was procured from near the deserted village of Mandahari some 13 kilometres to the north-west and yielded about 25 per cent of malleable iron. The place has been long noted for its fine red sand-stone.

The village contains two primary schools, *ayurvedic* dispensary, branch post-office, veterinary dispensary, forest sub-range office and *gram panchayat*. It occupies an area of about 457 hectares and according to the Census of 1961, its population is 1,176 persons, as against 544 in 1901.

KHARGONE

(21° 49′ N; 75° 36′E)

This is the headquarters town of the District. It is situated on the bank of the river Kunda, a tributary of the Narmada. It is connected by roads with all the tahsil headquarters towns and other important places within and without the District. On all these roads regular buses ply.

This municipal town appears quite ancient. Its importance increased in Mughal days, when it was made headquarters of a *mahal* in *sarkar* Bijagarh. In Aurangazeb's time the headquarters of the whole *sarkar* was moved here from Bijagarh and Jalalabad. Besides an old fort, there are numerous tombs and an old palace. The river bank here has been strengthened by a stone revetment and beautified with *ghats*. Navagraha temple of the town is famous and a fair is held every year in the months of December and January in honour of Navagraha.

It is one of the important commercial and trading centres of the District. There is a big cotton and grain *market*. Formerly, the town was noted for al (Morinda-tinctoria) dye and its trade was in flourishing condition. There are a number of oil-mills, cotton ginning and pressing and *bidi* factories. The town is electrified and its civil administration is carried on by local Municipality.

It has a degree college, a number of schools for primary, middle and higher secondary education, basic training institute, Sanskrit *shala*, Library (private), *Balwadi* (private), Main hospital, T.B. hospital, Materity Home, Family-Planning Centre, Sub-post-Office, Telegraph-office, Public Call-office, Telephone Exchange Centre, Veterinary Hospital, Artificial insemination Centre, District Poultry Unit and the District Police Headquarters.

Being the headquarters of the Tahsil, District and Development Block, besides offices of tahsil and collectorate, a number of offices of Government Departments are located in the town.

The town covers an area of 970.44 hectares and according to the Census of 1961, it contains a population of 30,652 as against 7,624 in 1901.

KHETIA

(21° 41′ N; 74° 37′E)

This important town of Sendhwa Tahsil lies to the south-west of the tahsil headquarters, with which it is connected by a road, on which buses ply regularly. Total mileage of the bus route is about 67 kilometres.

This municipal town is an important retail marketing and trade centre. There are cotton ginning and pressing factories. The town has schools for

primary, middle and higher secondary education, civil dispensary, maternity home, family-planning clinic, sub-post office, telegraph office and police-station.

The town covers an area of 1,553.18 hectares and according to the Census of 1961, its population is 6,838, as against 2,333 persons in 1901.

KHUDGAON

(21° 54'N; 75° 51'E)

This small village of Bhikangaon Tahsil is about 11 kilometres to the north-west of the tahsil headquarters with which it is connected by an unmetalled road.

Ain-i-Akbari mentions it as a *mahal* under *sarkar* Bijagarh. The village contains an old mosque and several old temples. Prior to 1903, it was the headquarters of a *pargana* of the same name.

The village has a primary school. It covers an area of 625.64 hectares and its population, according to the Census of 1961, is 675 as against 455 in 1901.

KHURAMPURA

(22° 02'N; 75° 21'E)

This important large village of Rajpur Tahsil is situated on Bombay-Agra National Highway to the north-east of the tahsil headquarters, at a distance of about 32 kilometres. It is connected with Rajpur by a road branching off from Julwania. Regular buses ply on these roads.

An annual fair, in honour of Badhai Mata, is held in the month of Chaitra from the 5th to the 15 of the bright half. To the south-west of the village, at a distance of about 11 kilometres, there stands a village named Khajuri, where a large annual fair, in honour of Singaji, is held in the month of Ashvina. It commences on the 13th of the bright half of the month and lasts for 15 days.

The village has school for the primary education of boys and girls, *ayurvedic* dispensary and veterinary dispensary. It covers an area of 524 hectares and according to the Census of 1961, it has a population of 551 persons, as against 254 in 1901.

LOHARA

(22° 05'N; 75° 13'E)

This small village of Rajpur Tahsil is situated on the south bank of the river Narmada, slightly to the north-east of the tahsil headquarters, at a short distance from the road going from Anjad to Thikri. It is connected with the road by a country track.

The place is held in great sanctity because Kapila, a small stream joins the Narmada here. "According to the Rewa Khanda,[1] Barhudan, the king of Ajodhya, held a great sacrifice here. The *Rishis* at the termination of the sacrifice washed the king in milk, curds and *ghee*, mingled with water from all the sacred streams of India. This water flowing into the Narbada formed the Kapila; temples to Siddheshvara and Amareshvara referred to in the Rewa Khanda are still standing here. Some volcanic ash found near the place is pointed out as a proof of the occurrence of this sacrifice. Another tradition, common to many places in India, tells how a cowherd traced a cow, which had joined his herd, to a *Rishi's* cave dwelling below the Narbada's bed. The *Rishi* gave him some husked rice, which changed into gold dust. Believing the *Rishi* to be Kapila *Rishi*, who practised penance under the Narbada, this stream was called after him." A fair is held yearly at Lohara on Shivaratri in Phalguna (March); bathing at this spot is considered most efficacious in cases of sterility.

The village covers an area of 376 hectares and according to the Census of 1961, its population is 394 persons, as against 351 in 1951.

MAHESHWAR

(22° 11'N; 75° 36'E)

This ancient town is the headquarters of a Tahsil of the same name and is situated on the north bank of the river Narmada at its junction with the Maheshvari. It is about 38 kilometres by road to the north of Khargone, the district headquarters town. It is connected also by road with other important towns of the District. Regular buses ply on the roads.

"Maheshwar is one of the few fortunate towns of India, which have a well-attested history right from the modern upto the beginning of the Christian era."[2]

The Mahabharata mentions a Maheshvarapura, a Maheshvarapada *tirtha* and a Maheshvarasthana. A few *Puranas* such as Matsya and Padma also refer to a sacred place (*tirtha*) called Jaleshvara (or Jwaleshvara) on the Narmada and Maheshvarasthana as its origin on the same river. These sources also narrate legendary traditions associated with the place.[3]

The Mahabharata, a few of the *Puranas*, like Matsya and Padma, Patanjali, Kalidasa, Dandin, Rajashekhara, Murari, and inscriptions mention a town of Mahishmati, while the Buddhist texts, coins of the early historic period and donation records on the *stupas* at Sanchi of the same period refer to a city Mahissati (Mahisati).

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1. Barwani State Gazetteer, pp. 1-2.
2. H.D. Sankalia, Excavations at Maheshwar and Navdatoli, p. 2.
3. Ibid., pp. 3, 5-8.

Puranic traditions ascribe Mahishmati's foundation to King Muchukunda, a son of Yadu, or king Mahishmat, a great grandson of Haihaya, one of the sons of Yadu. Whatever be the truth behind these and such other traditions, it is certain that the city was of great importance. According to the Buddhist texts, during the time of the Buddha i.e., in the sixth Century B. C., Mahissati was the capital of Avanti, one of the important *Janapadas* and it was situated on the highway from Paithan to Ujjain. It was then a famous trade and commercial centre. In subsequent times with the emergence of Ujjayini as a great city, Mahissati appears to have receded into back-ground, though its name was heard as late as 16th Century A. D.

Both groups of sources undoubtedly referred to the one and the same city, but there was a controversy about the identification of the ancient city. Cunningham identified it with Mandla; Fleet followed by Mirashi, Raychaudhuri, Pargiter with Omkar Mandhata and Dikshit, Sankalia, Diksalkar, Wilford, Pandya and Karandikar with Maheshwar.

In the belief that Maheshwar is the same as Mahishmati or Mahissati, scholars began explorations of the site of Maheshwar and started excavations there. These excavations have given a broad sequence of cultures right from the Early Stone Age upto the 18th Century A. D.[1] On the basis of Carbon—14 datings of five samples from phases III and IV, it is said that the first occupation of the site might go back nearly to the beginning of the second millennium B. C.[2]

Excavators, from 1952-53 onwards, collected over 400 palaeolithic tools during their survey of the surface in the Maheshwar region, and these represent the first cultural phase i.e. Pre-historic or Early Stone Age. Tools of the second phase i.e. Pre-historic or Middle Stone Age were all found at the place. "As the tools of this phase, characterised by the exclusive use of scrapers and flakes of chert and jasper, occur in the river gravels in situ, this seems to be of considerable antiquity and indicates a gap in time between this and the succeeding phases of human habitation in the Maheshwar area."[3] Besides this, a few specimens including two fine cores of chert and jasper were also recovered from excavations. Remains, representing the Proto-historic painted pottery culture dating provisionally to the first half of the first millenium B. C. as the upper limit of this period, were discovered in one of the excavated mounds. Of the Early Historic Period's Northern-Black-Polished Wares, many types of early cast and punch-marked silver and copper coins, proving the great importance of Maheshwar or Mahishmati in the Proto-historic and Early Historic periods, Black and Red Wares, etc., were found. These finds show the existence of cultures flourishing in the region upto 500[4] A. D.

1. Ibid., p. XI.
2. Indian Archaeology—A Review, 1958-59, p. 311.
3. H. D. Sankalia, op. cit., p. 21.
4. Ibid., p. 17.

"The evidence from the excavations indicates a gap or abandonment of certain areas"[1] thereafter. No data for the Paramara and other post-Harsha periods and not even for the very early Muslim occupation was recovered. However, in the excavated areas in the top layers evidence of definite Islamic glazed pottery and other Mediaeval and Muslim antiquities was noticed.

A brief account[2] of the finds of Maheshwar excavations is given below.

1. A total number of more than 500 specimens of Lithic Industry of Middle Stone Age period was found. These distinctly used Levallios technique, and the industry is mainly characterised by varieties of scrapers. One of the most characteristic tools of the Age is a double hollow scraper with an incipient point.

2. Maheshwar excavations reveal that the Blade Industry of the Proto-historic period was of a highly specialised nature and afforded ample material for the typological and technological study. The material includes (i) cores, (ii) irregular or Asymmetrical shaped flakes, (iii) regular or parallel sided flakes and (iv) flakes with logitudinal ridges showing signs of alternate flaking, called "Crested ridges" and finished tools, achieved by retouching.

Among the blades, predominantly found here, very characteristic serrated blades deserve mention, as probably for the first time in India, they were found at Maheshwar. Lunates, scrapers and core tools were found in lesser number.

3. Various types of painted, designed or incised pottery of different kinds, belonging to Proto-historic, Early Historic and Muslim-Maratha periods, were discovered.

4. Beads of the Early Historic period and Muslim-Maratha Period, 126 in number and made of agate, carnelian, chalcedony, crystal, garnet, glass, jasper, opal, quartz, shell, soapstone and terracotta are also found. Of these 96 were of the Early Historic Period (100 A.D. 500 A.D.). From material point of view, 79 are of terracotta, 11 of glass and nine of carnelian. The large number of terracotta objects comprised hook-like objects, fragments of votive tanks, discs, whorls, toys, figurines, wheels, stoppers, moulds, and crucibles.

5. Objects of copper, iron, lead, glass, bones, steatite, shell, stone, etc., were also found in various varieties in large number.

6. The site yielded 11 punch-marked silver coins, two punch-marked copper coins, six uninscribed cast copper coins and 25 tribal coins (6 Taxila, 16 Ujjayini and 3 Mahisati) of the Proto-Historic and Early Historic periods. Later coins of the 14th to 19th centuries were also collected from the surface of the site.

1. Ibid., p. 22.
2. Ibid., pp. 37 to 243.

The architectural (caves and *stupas*), numismatic (coins bearing the name Mahisati in characters of 3rd Century B. C. recovered from Maheshwar) and epigraphical evidences have now probably concludingly proved that, "If[1] there is any place on the Narmada known today which has a continuous chain of mounds proclaiming the site of the ancient city on both the banks, which lies on the highway from Ujjain to Paithan which, has Buddhist *stupas* near and around, which has a large number of Shaiva and Vishnu temples, some of the 13th Century as well, a site where a moat might have been made round the city, so that the Narmada as it were formed a girdle round it, as imagined by Kalidasa, Dandin and Raja Shekhara, a site, which at least during the last 300 years has been identified with Mahishmati, a site which during the periods immediately preceding could as well be Mahishmati mentioned in inscriptions of the 2nd Century B. C. and 5th and 13th Centuries respectively, and finally a site whose antiquity the excavations have taken right back to the pre-historic period through a proto-historic, then such a place is Maheshwar. Excepting that no early record but coins are found from Maheshwar, calling it Mahishmati, Maheshwar fulfills all the conditions for identifying it with Mahishmati."

Thus Mandla could not make its case. Probably Mandhata too has now lost the case, thus Maheshwar is now being identified with Mahishmati of great antiquity.

Mandalkho, the eastern part of the fort area is called so because of its association with Mandana Mishra, a famous Sanskrit scholar-pihlosopher of the 8th Century[2] A.D. A story goes that, he was defeated in philosophical dialectics by his contemporary *Vedanta* philosopher Shankaracharya at Maheshwar.[3]

There is also a half-buried temple with a very narrow entrance. It is known as Bhartrihari *gumpha* a cave of Bhartrihari. The cave contains sculptures of the[4] Paramara period. There are many temples of which those dedicated to Vitthal, Jwaleshvara-Kaleshvara, and Matangeshvara, are better known. In the last named two temples there are two inscriptions, respectively, dated in 1565 and 1570 A.D. The Digambar Jain temple has also an inscription of the year 1571 A.D. above the lintal of the doorway of the sanctum. Most of the temples are renovations or reconstructions over the debris of temples of the 10th to 13th Century.[5]

The fort of the place was built in the time of Akbar, when this neglected town received some attention. The town was included in the *mahal* known Choli-Maheshwar. Ahilyabai Holkar used to stay here all the year round since 1767. The stone-built *ghats* on the bank of the river were constructed by her. The landscape of the river side is beautified by a cenotaph raised in her memory.

1. Ibid., p. 15.
2. Ibid., p. 17.
3. D. R. Patil, Cultural Heritage of Madhya Bharat, p. 131.
4. H. D. Sankalia, op. cit., p. 17.
5. Ibid., p. 2.

The royal family of the Holkars of Indore held the place as a sacred spot around which the other cenotaphs were later raised in honour of its royal dead. The architecture of these cenotaphs resembles that of the ancient temples "with a porch in front, large pillared hall in centre and a recess with a loftier *shikhar* in the back of the image of the dead. The structures are faced with carvings and adorned with figure sculptures like the older temples. The art of carving and sculpture, which in main, characterised the beauty and grace of the older edifices, was almost dead in the time of Ahilyabai. The figure sculptures and carvings here may not be equally artistic and aesthetically appealing but still it was a creditable performance on the part of the builders of these *chhatris* to attempt to revive an otherwise forgotten art and architectural[1] tradition."

Among the Muslim monuments figure a few Persian inscriptions located in mosques.

Maheshwar since long has been famous for its fine and beautiful hand-woven *sarees* and locally manufactured house-hold utensils of brass. There is a Government Hand-loom and Power-loom Factory. This municipal town is electrified. It is also one of the important trade and retail marketing centres. A weekly market is held here on every Tuesday.

Besides the offices of Tahsil and Development Block, there are sub-offices of Central Excise, Weights and Measures, and Civil and Criminal Court. The town has schools for primary, middle and higher secondary education, Sanskrit *pathashala*, library, sub-post and telegraph offices, public call-office, primary health centre, maternity home, family planning clinic, veterinary hospital, *nyaya panchayat*, police station, and inspection bungalow. It covers an area of 613 hectares and according to the Census of 1961, it is populated by 8,089 persons, as against 7,042 in 1901.

MANDLESHWAR

(22° 11′ N; 75° 40′ E)

This is an important town of Maheshwar Tahsil, situated picturesquely on the high northern bank of the river Narmada, at a distance of about 10 kilometres to the west of the tahsil headquarters, with which it is connected by a road on which regular buses ply. The channel of the river Narmada considerably narrows in front of the town and though easily traversed during the greater part of the year, it becomes, in rainy season, a roaring torrent often rising 60 feet above its normal level.

Though the town has no traces of any ancient inhabitations, the site has yielded tools of Series I. It is said that the town was founded by Mandana Mishra, who was defeated in his philosophical argumentation with

1. D. R. Patil, op. cit., p. 132.

Shankaracharya. Mandana Mishra's name is said to have still survived in the name of this town.

The town has a stone-built fort constructed by Muhammadan rulers. It has also a fine flight of 123 steps leading down to the river and expanding below into a wide *ghat*. Tukoji Rao Holkar II built a palace here. There is also a well-built tank. The importance of the town increased, when it was the headquarters of the Nimar Agency and cantonment under the British from the year 1819 to 1864. Subsequently, the headquarters of British Nimar was removed to Khandwa. It remained the headquarters of a District of Holkar till 1904, when the District was merged in Nimar District of which Khargone was the headquarters.

The town is an important retail marketing and trade centre having its own Municipality. A weekly market is held on every Monday. There are offices of the Sub-Divisional officers (Revenue, Police and P.W.D.), Forest Ranger, and the District Judicial Court. It has schools for boys and girls teaching upto higher secondary standards, *Balwadi* (Kindergarten), two libraries, two Sanskrit schools, civil hospital, maternity home, family planning centre, sub-post-office, telegraph office, and telephone exchange. The town is electrified. There are *dharmashalas* and an inspection bungalow.

The town covers an area of 1,187 hectares and according to the Census of 1961, its population is 5,481, as against 2,807 in 1901.

MARDANA

(22° 11′ N; 75° 49′ E)

This large village, situated on the south bank of the river Narmada, is in Barwaha Tahsil lying to the east of Sanawad railway station at a distance of about 23 kilometres. It is connected by an unmetalled road with Kasrawad, situated in its south-west, distance of which is also 23 kilometres.

This old village was a *mahal* in *sarkar* Bijagarh. There is an old fort in a dilapidated condition. The fort contains, besides *hathikhana*, shrines dedicated to Mayuradwajeshvara and Huzur Shah Data Pir and a temple to Kaleshvara. This village was one of the stages on an old route connecting Deccan with the north.

Ahilyabai is said to have wished to make Mardana her capital, but the plan was abandoned on account of objections raised by the Brahmans, who advised that the capital of the State must not be situated to the south of the Narmada. The village contains an old *dharmashala*, and a temple dedicated to Lakshmi Narayana, both constructed by Ahilyabai. To the west of the village is a masonry dam in Khalut Nala, 12 cubits high. Most of the temples and shrines both Hindu and Muhammadan were given grants from the State. Two

fairs are annually held in the village, respectively, on the 15th bright half of Vaishakha in honour of Mayuradhwajeshvara Mahadeva and on Thursdays during the bright half of Vaishakha in honour of Moti Mata.

The village contains primary and middle schools and ungraded *ayurvedic* dispensary. It occupies an area of 1,550 hectares and according to the Census of 1961, it has a population of 1,354 persons, as against 1,128 in 1901.

NAGALWADI

(21°46′ N; 75°15′ E)

This small village in Rajpur Tahsil is situated at a distance of about 24 kilometres to the south-east of the tahsil headquarters. It is in the same direction from Ojhar, another important place of the same Tahsil, near the Bombay-Agra Road. From Ojhar the distance is about eight kilometres, transport facility for which is not available. Regular buses ply on the National Highway.

Ain-i-Akbari mentions Nagalwadi as one of the *mahals* in *sarkar* Bijagarh. The village was destroyed by the Pindaris and was repopulated in 1873.

The main interest of the village lies in two shrines of Bhilat Deva (snake-god). One is in the village and the other is on the top of a hill (Bhilat-ka-Pahar). In 1957-58, the temple of the village was renovated. The second one is a small shelter roofed in with dried leaves. Under this shed, there are a number of hollow earthen vassels of helmet shape, known as *ghubas* or *dhupas*, varying in height from 2 to 10 feet and these are the shrines of the Bhilat Deva. A narrow and steep foot-path from Nagalwadi leads upto the hill, and fairs are held here annually on the 5th of the bright half of Shravana (Nag Panchami). A large number of pilgrims visit the place on that day and offer worship to the snake-god, said to be residing in the *ghubas*. There is another shrine of this god, where also a fair is held from the third to fifth day of the bright half of Vaishakha and offerings are made to the deity. These shrines are held very sacred by the people of whole of Nimar and people from districts of Jalgaon and Dhulia of the Maharashtra State come to worship the god. The existence of this important centre of worship here is undoubtedly the origin of the name of village.

The village contains primary school, ungraded dispensary, police-station and branch post-office. Its area is 550 hectares and according to the Census of 1961, its population is 490 persons, as against 372 in 1901.

NAVDATOLI

(22°10′ N; 75°36′ E)

This seemingly insignificant but archaeologically most important hamlet of Navdatoli (or Navdatodi) (boatman's village) of Kasrawad Tahsil is known as Mubarakabad in the revenue records of the District. It is situated on the southern

bank of the river Narmada and is about 5 kilometres north of the tahsil headquarters, with which it is connected by a road. It stands just opposite the ancient town of Maheshvar, indentified with the celebrated ancient town of Mahishmati.

Though the hamlet is of a little significance today, excavations there have proved that "some 3,000 years ago, however, this place was perhaps in a more flourishing condition than its northernly neighbour"[1] i.e. Maheshwar.

Carbon-14 date of the top layers of the Chalcolithic habitation here would be about 1,000 B.C. and that of the earliest layers would be 1500[2] B.C. It is at this period that the foundations of Navdatoli were laid by the people, knowing beautiful wheel-made painted pottery and carts of solid wheels, and settled or colonized on either banks of the Narmada. Though the people then used stone blades for cutting, scraping and piercing, they did not belong to the groups of nomads.[3] They lived in houses, knew cultivation of grains and used painted pottery reflecting their contact with Iran.

This ancient settlement of closely set mud-timber houses was rebuilt at least ten times; thrice it was destroyed by fire.[4] "About the beginning of the Christian era it was nearly wiped off by a flood; hence no trace of its existence seems to have been known to the then contemporary writers".[5]

Excavations at the site have revealed that the deposits of Proto-historic periods are very well preserved and all the elements of Proto-historic culture can be studied. The finds of these periods include specimens of a large number of blades pointing thereby a flourishing Blade industry of the site, specimens of pottery, faience and steatite beads, terracotta objects, metal objects, glass objects, objects of bone, steatite, shell, stone, marble, etc. A few uninscribed castcopper and tribal coins were also discovered there.[6]

Remains, representing Early Historic periods, are also found there. The *Stupa*, some of the bricks of which bear letters ascribable to the 3rd Century[7] B.C., was also found along with circumambulatory passage around it. The *Stupa* was probably left incomplete and it was destroyed by a flood and shortly after the whole area seems to have been abandoned.

The village now contains primary school and *gram-panchayat*. It covers an area of 200 hectares and according to the Census of 1961, it is populated by 460 persons.

1. H.D. Sankalia, op. cit., p. 1.
2. Ibid., slip attached to p. XIII.
3. Ibid., p. XII.
4. Indian Archaeology—A Review, 1958-59 p. 30.
5. H.D. Sankalia, op. cit., p. 1.
6. Ibid., pp. 41 to 243.
7. Ibid., pp. 29-30.
   The stupas at Kasrawad also belong to the same date on account of brick size as well as associated finds like Northern Black Polished Ware.

NIWALI

(21°42′ N; 74°58′ E)

This important large village of Sendhwa Tahsil lies about 19 kilometres to the west of the tahsil headquarters, with which it is connected by a road on which regular buses ply. It is also connected with other important places such as Pansemal, Khetia, Rajpur, etc.

In former Barwani State it was the summer station of the Ranas, its climate being cool in summer. Now the importance of the village lies in its being the headquarters of the activities of the Kasturba Vanavasi Kanya Ashram established in the village by the Kasturba National Memorial Trust, Indore, for the all round uplift of the *Adiwasi* girls and women-folk.

The village has schools for primary, middle, and higher secondary education, library, civil dispensary dak-bangalow, branch post-office, etc. It covers an area of 922.63 hectares and its population according to the Census of 1961 is 2,204 as against 290 persons in 1901.

PALSUD

(21°49′ N; 75°01′ E)

This important large village lies to the south-west of Rajpur, the tahsil headquarters with which it is connected by a road on which regular buses ply, distance between these two places being about 22 kilometres. The road further connects the village with Niwali, Pansemal and Khetia.

The village contains schools for primary, middle and higher secondary education, civil dispensary, family planning clinic, veterinary dispensary, cattle breeding extension unit, police out-post, rest-house, and branch post-office. It covers an area of 1,953.82 hectares and according to the Census of 1961, it is populated by 3,748 persons as against 1,078 in 1901.

PANSEMAL

(21° 39′N; 74° 44′E)

This important large village of Sendhwa Tahsil, lying to the south-west of the tahsil headquarters, is at a distance of about 40 kilometres. It is connected by road with Sendhwa, Niwali, Khetia and other important places of the District. Regular buses ply on the road.

There is an old fort and the village was a favourite resort of the Ranas of Barwani in early days. At a distance of about 10 kilometres there are remains of an old fort called Ramgarh (21° 47′N and 74° 43′E).

The village is an important trade and retail marketing centre, having also an oil-mill. It contains primary and middle schools, police out-post, sub-post office, P.W.D. rest-house, veterinary hospital, family planning clinic, and primary health centre.

It covers an area of 613.50 hectares and according the to the Census of 1961, its population is 3,331, as against 842 persons in 1901.

PATI

(21° 56'N; 74° 46'E)

This large village of Barwani Tahsil lies to the south-west of the tahsil headquarters and at a distance of about 18 kilometres. It is connected by road with Barwani. Regular buses ply on the road.

The village has yielded a hoard of 3,423 silver punch-marked coins, a majority of which weigh between 3.6 and 3.1 grams.[1]

This village is the headquarters of Block Development Office of the Block of the same name. A weekly market is held on Thursday. Among local industries figure brick-making and potteries. The village contains two primary schools, ungraded dispensary, veterinary dispensary, police out post and *gram* and *nyaya panchayats*. It covers an area of 552.40 hectares and according to the Census of 1961, it has a population of 1,456 persons, as against 559 in 1901.

RAJPUR

(21° 56'N; 75° 11'E)

Rajpur is the headquarters town of the Tahsil and the Community Development Project of the same name. It is about 55 kilometres north-west of Khargone, the District headquarters. The town is connected with all other important places of the District by road, and on all the roads buses ply regularly.

Narayan Kund (pond) here is locally famous. The town is one of the most important trade and commercial centres. The local industries of the place include oil mills, weaving, bamboo-works, cotton ginning and pressing, etc. This municipal town is electrified.

The town contains schools for primary, middle, and higher secondary education, primary health centre, maternity home, family-planning clinic, veterinary hospital, artificial insemination centre, library (private), police-station, sub-post and telegraph offices, dak bungalow, inspection bungalow, etc. The town covers an area of 1,664 hectares and according to the Census of 1961, it is populated by 8,460 persons, as against 4,503 in 1901.

1. Ancient India, 1951, p. 79.

KAVER

(22° 11'N; 75° 53'E)

This small village, situated on the southern bank of the river Narmada in Barwaha Tahsil, is about 38 kilometres by road from Barwaha and a metalled road of the length of about 13 kilometres joins the village with Bedia, situated near Sanawad-Khargone road on which buses ply regularly.

It is one of the palaeolithic sites, where palaeolithic tools and microliths[1] are found along the Narmada.

On the bank of the river stands a *chhatri* (cenotaph, built of variegated sandstone) of Peshwa Baji Rao I, who died here in 1740. It is enclosed in a *dharmashala* of strong masonry and two temples dedicated, respectively, to Nilkantheshvara Mahadeva and Rameshvara. The village covers an area of 402 hectares and according to the Census of 1961, it is occupied by 74 persons only.

SAGUR

(21° 52'N; 75° 49'E)

This is the small village of Bhikangaon Tahsil. It is about 14 kilometres west of the tahsil headquarter, with which it is connected by an unmetalled road.

This village (otherwise known as Sagur Bhagur--two adjacent villages) is famous for a spring and a temple of Bhageshwari Devi. The water of the spring collects in a *kund* or reservoir near the temple The bath in the water of *kund* is believed to have the power of curing diseases in general and lunacy and leprosy in particular. On an average, six baths are considered necessary to effect a cure. A fair, twice in a year from the 5th lunar of Chaitra to 5th solar of Ashvina, is held in honour of the Devi. People from distant places in large numbers attend the fair and take bath in the *kund*.

The village Sagur-Bhagur has primary school. It is under a *gram panchayat* working for villages Sagur-Bhagur, Pipri and Balkhadia. The village covers an area of 1,481 hectares and its population according to the Census of 1961 is 689 as against 376 persons in 1921.

SANAWAD

(22° 10'N; 76° 04'E)

This is the most important town in the Tahsil of Barwaha. It is on Indore-Khandwa road, 10 kilometres south-west of the tahsil headquarters. It is also connected by a road with Khargone, the district headquarters town.

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1. Indian Archaeology—A Review, 1957-58, p. 68.

Sanawad is a railway-station on Khandwa-Indore metre gauge line of the Western Railway. Besides there being railway, regular buses also ply to carry passengers.

The town is comparatively modern and was founded about 240 years ago, when the headquarters of Baswa or Basania *pargana* of Bijagarh *sarkar* was moved here. Its old name was Gul Sanawad and it made a rapid progress. Subsequently, the headquarters of the *pargana* was transferred to Barwaha. Still the trade and commercial activities of the town increased considerably and now the town has become the most important trade, commercial and industrial centre in the District. There is a floursihing bidi-manufacturing industry. A large cotton and grain market is also there. The Government has started Cotton Spinning Mills at the place. A number of cotton ginning and pressing factories have been working here since long. This municipal town is electrified and water is supplied through pipes.

There is a tomb of Piran-Pir, in whose honour an annual fair, lasting for 15 days and attracting about 7,000 to 8,000 persons, is held from the 7th solar of Margashirsha. A weekly market is held on every Monday.

The town has schools for primary, middle and higher secondary education, two libraries, sub-post office, telegraph office, telephone exchange centre, civil hospital, maternity home, family planning clinic, veterinary dispensary, police-station, *tappa* tahsil office, *nyaya panchayat*, sub-office of the Central Excise and *ayurvedic* dispensary (private). The town covers an area of 1,225 hectares and according to the Census of 1961, it is populated by 11,130 persons as against 7,755 in 1901.

SENDHWA

(21° 41'N; 75° 07'E)

This tahsil headquarters town, a little over 67 kilometers by road to the south-west of Khargone, the district headquarters town, is situated on the Bombay-Agra National Highway. It is also connected by roads with other important places of the District. Buses ply regularly on all these roads.

The site has yielded ancient bricks of large size, measuring 1'8"×1'4". The place finds mention in *Ain-i-Akbari* as the headquarters of a *mahal* of the same name in *sarkar* Bijagarh. Being situated on the then most important pass in the Satpuras, it was regarded as an important town, and probably an old fort existed at the place in the earliest days. The fort, which now stands, is a lofty and handsome structure with battlemented walls of solid stone and granite gateways in two faces. Inside the fort, stand a temple of Mahadeva and six tombs of Muhammadan saints. Principal tomb is that of Chand Vali Shah. Other five are known as those of Pancho Pir. Behind the fort exists an old well Sakhal Kuwa, having a stone inscription, dated in Samvat year 1847 (1790 A.D.)

Sendhwa is one of the most important trade and commercial centres of the District. It is noted for its trade in cotton. Cotton ginning and pressing factories are also here. Among the local industries figure weaving, shoe-making, etc. It is also an important retail marketing centre, where a weekly market is held on every Sunday.

An annual fair, lasting for a period of week and attended by about three to five thousand persons, is held and is locally known as Devazhiri fair. It commences from Mahashivaratri day.

Being an important tahsil headquarters town it has a number of Government offices, such as Tahsil office, Block Development Office, offices of S.D.Os. (P.W.D. and Forest). Assistant Inspector of Schools, Excise Sub-Inspector, and a Court of Civil Judge class II.

The town is electrified and water-works facility is there. It has schools for primary, middle and higher secondary education, library, primary health centre, maternity home, family planning clinic, veterinary hospital, artificial insemination unit, *goshala* (private), sub-post and telegraph offices, telephone exchange, police-station, traffic check-post and *nyaya panchayat*. The town covers an area of 932 hectares and according to the Census of 1961, it contains a population of 13,247 persons, as against 2,620 in 1921.

SILAWAD

(21° 55'N; 74° 54'E)

This large village is in Barwani Tahsil to the south of the tahsil headquarters and is connected by a village road and a metalled road by which it is at a distance of about 24 kilometres. Regular buses ply on the road.

The village contains an old temple said to have been built by the founder of the State, when he first constructed the fort of Avasgarh, the early capital of the State. It is one of the retail marketing centres of the tahsil, where there is cotton ginning industry. A weekly market is held on Wednesday.

It has schools for primary and middle education, branch post-office, primary health centre, family planning clinic, police-station and *gram panchayat*. The village occupies an area of 749 hectares and according to the Census of 1961, it has a populotion of 1,933 persons, as against 664 in 1901.

TAZDIN-VALI

(21° 30'N; 75° 23'E)

This is the highest hill peak of the Satpuras in the District. It is situated to the south-west of Sendhwa, its tahsil head-quarters, and is about 19 kilometres due north of Dhavali, a village of the Tahsil lying on the southern boundary of Tahsil and District. A country track leads to the peak.

The peak is highly revered both by the Hindus and Muhammadans on account of a tomb of Taj-Ud-Din Shah-vali, a Muhammadan saint. In his honour a large annual fair is held in the month of August. People from distant places attend the fair for paying their offerings. The Takkia-Pani spring, situated at the foot of the hill, is also held in reverence.

THIKRI

(21° 57′N; 75° 08′E)

This large village in Tahsil Rajpur is to the north-west of the tahsil headquarters. It is situated near the Bombay-Agra road and is connected by road with important places of the District, like, Rajpur, Anjad, Barwani, Khargone, etc. Regular buses ply on the roads.

The town is an important trade centre and contains an oil-mill. An annual fair, called Khande-Rao mela, lasting for a period of a fortnight, is held here from the 15th of the bright half of Phalguna.

The village has schools for education upto higher secondary standard, library, primary helth centre, maternity home, family-planning centre, police-station, branch post-office, semin production and artificial insemination centre. It covers an area of 1,866 hectares and according to the Census of 1961 it is populated by 3,074 persons.

UN

(21° 50′N; 75° 27′E)

This important large village, lying on the northern fringe of the Satpura ranges in the plain of Nimar, is in Khargone Tahsil, 16 kilometres west of the tahsil headquarters. It is situated on a road linking Khargone with the Bombay-Agra National Highway at village Julwania. Buses ply regularly on the road.

Rich archaeological remains of the place show that the village was a flourishing place about 1,000 years ago. About a dozen temples lie clustering here and represent an architecture patronised by the Paramara kings of Malwa. Some of the temples of Un are in a dilapidated condition. "The carvings on the temples at Un are slightly less elaborate than those on the celebrated temples at Khajuraho but in all other respects they would compare vary favourably with the Khajuraho group."[1]

The temples are both Hindu and Jain. In point of technique there is very little difference between these two groups or divisions. Of the Hindu temples, a temple locally called as Chaubara Dera is situated in the village, at a little distance from the road. It is the most important being large and most elaborately carved. In plan it is like most of the temples of the Paramara period.[2] It consits of a

1. Indore State Gazetteer, 1931, Vol. II (Archaeology), p. 68.
2. D.R. Patil, op. cit, p. 132.

large pillared hall in the centre, the sacred shrine at the back, an elaborately carved porch in front and similar small porches at sides. "The exquisitely carved porch reminds one from its style of the larger Sas Bahu temple on Gwalior hill." Over the shrine there was an imposing and lofty spire (*shikhara*). If was half gone in ruins and thus exposed the inner frame-work of the stone masonry for which neither lime nor any other cementing material was used. The pyramidical roof over the central *mandapa* was also half shatterd. Repairs to these structures are undertaken by the Central Archaeology Department. In the *mandapa*, on four round and carved pillars stand four large stone lintals, supporting the elaborately carved dome. Two door frames inside bear elaborate carving and figure sculptures. There is also an elaborately carved lintal on the door, leading into the shrine from the *mandapa*. This door way leads into a small passage. The *sarpabandha* inscription and two short records are on the northern wall of this passage. These two are dated in the reign of Paramara Udayaditya. The *sarpabandha* at Un is a much smaller affair than that at Dhar. "The Devanagari[1] alphabet and some of the conjugational terms have been combined on the body of a single serpent, while the squares formed by the conventional coils of its body contain the twenty-five principal consonants, consisting of the five *Vargas*. The sibilants and the aspirate occupy right sloping limb and semi-vowels the left". The portions between these two limbs are occupied by *anuswara* and three *visargas*, while the conjugational terminations are inscribed on the tail. Of the two short inscriptions to the left of above *sarpabandha*, one is grammatical, while the other one consists of a short verse containing the name of King Udayaditya of the Paramara dynasty of Malwa. At the other end of this passage, there is another elaborately carved door, which has been filled up with masonry. The temple was dedicated to Shiva.

In 'thirties, excavations, on the ground to the south-east of the main porch, yielded some old foundations and several colossal images of Jain *Tirthankaras*. "One of these colossi is inscribed, according to which, in Vikrama Samvat 1182 or 1192, corresponding to 1125 or 1135 A.D., the image was erected by a Jain *acharya* named Ratankirti (Ratna Kirti)."[2]

To the north of the Chaubara Dera stands a small temple dedicated to Shiva. Its front porch and the *mandapa* have disappeared.

At a little distance to its north is a temple called Mahakaleshvara. It is in the village and its central hall has disappeared totally. In plan, it is akin to the Chaubara Dera. The style of its *shikhara*, now much shattered, represents the style much common with the Paramara temples, adorned as it is with the clusters of miniature *shikharas* on all its sides. The interior of the *shikhara* has been exposed on account of the collapse of the dome. There is a headless bull in the now open *mandapa*, which was probably the largest in Un and of which

1. Indore State Gazetteer, 1931, Vol. II (Archaeology), p. 69
2. Ibid.

the only remains are three huge bases of pillars, which supported the dome. North-west of this, outside the town, is the temple of Ballaleshvara with a later built Muhammadan dome over the shrine in place of the original *shikhara*. There is a defaced inscription in very late Nagarl characters on the outer wall of the sanctum to the right of the door. This temple was also dedicated to Shiva.

In the heart of the village stands Nilakantheshvara temple. It is beautifully carved but its imposing central hall is no more. The spire is in a dilapidated condition. The door-frames bear beautiful carvings and figure sculptures. Close by is another Shiva temple called Gupteshvara because the shrine proper is now underground. The other parts of the temple have already disappeared.

Close to the Gupteshvara temple and by the side of the road leading to Khargone is another temple called Nilakantheshvara[1] No. II. It is in a much ruined condition.

Of the Jain temples at Un, the most notable one is locally called Chaubara Dera No. II or Nahala-Avar-ka-Dera. It can be visited while proceeding from Khargone-Un road towards the Chaubara Dera. It is one of the most beautiful monuments at Un. The *shikhara* of this temple is unfortunately gone. In plan, it is like Chaubara Dera, except that, here there are no side porches. There is only one porch in front of the *mandapa* with an extension in its centre. The spacious *mandapa* consists of a square chamber with eight beautifully carved pillars in the middle supporting a round dome. The carvings here are of high order and as a whole can be taken as a good specimen of the Paramara style of architecture. There are four doors in the *mandapa*, one of which leads to the sanctum, those on the east and west open on steps for going out and the remaining one leads to the *mandapa* in front. The sanctum is roofless. Two standing Digambar Jain images were long ago removed to the Museum at Indore. The larger one, that of Shantinatha, the 16th *Tirthankara*, has an inscription on its pedestal recording its dedication on the 7th day of the bright half of Magha in Samvat 1242 corresponding to A.D. 1185.

At a short distance from the above Jain temple across the road stands another well-preserved Jain temple, locally called Gwaleshvara temple, because cow-herds in the past used to take shelter within it during inclement weather. In plan, it is similar to the Jain temple described already with the exception of the porch in front. Except a portion of the *amalaka* and the crest-jewel (*chudamani*), this temple is in a perfect condition. The square *mandapa* has four doors three of which lead out-side, while the remaing one to the interior. The outer cover of the roofing of the *mandapa* has disappeared. The level of

1. Indore State Gazetteer, 1931, Vol. II (Archaeology), gives this name as Mahakaleshvara No. II (p. 71), while in D.R. Patil's Cultural Heritage of Madhya Bharat it is called Nilakantheshvara No. II (p. 133).

the sanctum or shrine here is about 10 feet below that of the hall in front. A series of steps is there to reach the sanctum from the hall. Inside it are three well-preserved huge Digambara Jain images in unmutilated condition. They stand in a row bearing short votive inscriptions on their pedestals datable to the first quarter of the 13th Century A.D. The central image is the biggest and measures twelve and a half feet in height. There are series of short steps along the back wall of the sanctum, on both sides of the group of these images, and they are utilised by the devotees wishing to annoint the images.

The Jains have lately been identifiyng Un with one of their *Nirvana Kshetras*, described in an old Prakrit work of theirs. Therein the place is called Pavagiri. The passage runs "Bow to Suvarna Bhadra and other three sages, who obtained *Nirvana* from the crest of Pavagiri, situated on the bank of rivulet Chalana".[1] The Digamber Jains, just near the Khargone Un road, on opposite side of the village, have built a huge Jain temple and a spacious *dharmashala* for the pilgrims, who visit this place through out the year in open season. The place has recently yielded microliths[2] including cores.

An annual fair in honour of Mahalaxmi, lasting for a fortnight, commences from the 1st of the bright half of Pausha. There is a small tank called Narayana Kund with lotus flowers. It is held sacred and people in surrounding villages bring dead bodies for cremation on its bank.

A weekly market is held here on every Sunday. It contains schools for primary, middle and higher secondary education, and *gram-panchayat*. It covers an area of 860 hectares and according to the Census of 1961, its population is 2,871 as against 1,256 persons in 1901.

WARLA

(21°26′ N; 75°10′ E)

This important large village in Sendhwa Tahsil is situated about 32 kilometers south-east of the tahsil headquarters with which it is connected by a road on which buses regularly ply.

Its importance lies in hot springs called Unab-Dava, located at a little distance from here near the banks of a stream. An annual fair, in honour of Phulsha-Baba, is held in the month of December/January and lasts for two days.

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1. *Pavagirivara sihare Suvannabhaddai Muniwara chauro.*
   Chalananaitadagge Nivvana gaya namo Tesim ll — Nivvui Kandam 1 Gatha 13.
   For detailed discussion of the identification of Un with Pavagiri as described in this *gatha see* Nathuram Premijain *Sahitya Aur Itihas*, pp. 429 31.

2. Indian Archaeology—A Review, 1958-59, p. 72.

It is one of the important retil marketing centres of the tahsil. A weekly market is held on every Friday.

The village contains schools for primary and middle education, civil dispensary, veterinary dispensary, police-station, branch post-office, and *gram-panchayat*. The Tribal Welfare Centre of the village runs two primary schools and *Ayurvedic* dispensary, maternity home, veterinary hospital and poultry unit.

The village covers an area of 322 hectares and according to the Census of 1961, it is populated by 1,849 persons as against 818 in 1901.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX—A

(Statistical Tables)

APPENDIX—B

TABLE I

Normals and Extremes of Rainfall

Station	No. of years of date		Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual	Highest annual rainfall as % of normal & years**	Lowest annual rainfall as % of normal & years**	Heaviest rainfall in 24 hours* Amount (mm)	Heaviest rainfall in 24 hours* Date
Barwaha	20	a	2.8	1.8	5.1	1.3	8.4	141.0	334.5	233.2	179.1	32.3	22.1	3.3	964.9	160 (1944)	57 (1935)	276.3	1937, Jul. 25
		b	0.5	0.1	0.5	0.1	0.7	6.7	13.3	11.2	7.8	1.9	0.9	0.3	44.0				
Maheshwar	20	a	1.5	1.3	1.3	0.3	8.6	124.2	264.4	190.0	175.5	33.8	17.5	1.3	819.7	149 (1933)	60 (1935)	218.4	1932, Jul. 14
		b	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.7	5.4	12.4	10.5	7.4	1.8	0.9	0.1	39.6				
Khargone	20	a	2.3	3.1	4.8	3.6	10.9	145.8	281.9	180.9	180.9	45.7	21.1	5.8	886.3	141 (1944)	60 (1945)	400.3	1948, Jun. 20
		b	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.7	6.6	15.1	0.1	7.9	2.3	1.3	0.5	43.0				
Barwani	50	a	5.1	2.0	3.8	1.5	6.3	127.8	182.1	132.1	123.3	30.7	18.0	3.6	636.2	172 (1944)	48 (1901)	215.9	1959, Sep. 15
		b	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.7	7.2	13.3	10.2	6.8	1.9	0.8	0.2	42.2				
Rajpur	20	a	1.8	1.0	1.3	2.0	8.6	125.5	212.1	143.0	151.4	41.7	21.1	6.9	716.4	163 (1944)	70 (1950)	274.3	1959,Sep. 15
		b	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.8	5.9	11.2	9.1	6.8	1.7	1.0	0.5	38.0				
Pansemal	20	a	1.3	0.8	1.3	1.8	7.4	134.1	316.5	223.5	213.1	38.6	16.5	10.2	965.1	165 (1944)	64 (1935)	320.0	1954, Sep. 29
		b	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.8	6.9	17.8	13.9	10.4	2.1	1.1	0.5	54.2				
West-Nimar (Distt.)		a	2.5	1.7	2.9	1.7	8.4	133.1	265.3	183.8	170.5	37.1	19.4	5.1	831.5	165 (1944)	37 (1901)		
		b	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.7	6.5	13.5	10.7	7.9	1.9	1.0	0.3	43.5				

(a) Normal rainfall in mm. (b) Average number of rainy days (days with rain of 2.5 mm. or more) *Based on all available date up to 1959.

**Years given in brackets.

TABLE II
Frequency of Annual Rainfall
(1901-1950)

Range in mm.	No. of Years	Range in mm.	No. of Years
301-400	4	801-900	9
401-500	5	901-1000	1
501-600	7	1001-1100	4
601-700	10	1101-1200	0
701-800	9	1201-1300	1

TABLE III
Location of Contour-Bunding Operations

S. No.	Name of Village	Name of Block
1	2	3
1.	Bamnala	Bhikangaon
2.	Dodwa	,,
3.	Nandra	Maheshwar
4.	Piplia	,,
5.	Kithood	Barwah
6.	Banswa	,,
7.	Balsamud	Kasrawad
8.	Anjar	Thikri
9.	Gwodi	Sendhwa
10.	Sendhwa	,,
11.	Pansemal	Pansemal
12.	Mandrana	,,
13.	Kazalpura	Khargone

Contd....

1	2	3
14.	Banihar	Sendhwa
15.	Singar Chori	Bhikangaon
16.	Khetia	Pansemal
17.	Nisarpur	,,
18.	Pipaldhar	,,
19.	Lonsara	,,
20.	Kasrawad	Sendhwa
21.	Julwania	,,
22.	Jhalpipri	Thikri
23.	Panwa	Rajpur
24.	Sanawad	Barwah
25.	Bardia	Maheshwar
26.	Sangvi	Rajpur
27.	Than	Rajpur
28.	Ralwa	,,
29.	Aklara	Barwani
30.	Nimi Barwani	,,
31.	Badgaon	,,
32.	Barwani Block No. II	,,
33.	Bhilkhera	,,
34.	Sengaon	,,

....Concluded

TABLE IV
Classification of Area

(In Acres)

Year	Total Geographical Area According to			Not Available for Cultivation			Other Uncultivated Land Excluding Fallow Land			
	Professional Survey	Village Papers	Forests	Land Put to Non-Agricultural Uses	Barren And Unculturable Land	Total	Permanent Pastures and Other Grazing Lands	Land Under Misc. Tree Crops and Groves	Culturable Waste	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1950-51	32,80,384	22,46,170	2,56,349	3,07,071	46,398	3,53,469	1,64,242	441	1,65,993	3,30,676
1951-52	32,80,384	22,51,707	2,56,190	3,21,124	32,441	3,53,565	1,65,367	424	46,772	2,12,563
1952-53	32,80,384	22,52,938	2,56,190	3,17,935	35,500	3,53,435	1,59,821	454	1,80,568	3,40,843
1953-54	32,80,384	23,47,333	2,69,064	1,05,593	1,32,400	2,37,993	1,40,453	27	3,41,912	4,82,392
1954-55	32,80,384	23,69,272	2,76,119	1,06,890	1,34,438	2,41,328	1,39,064	46	3,34,538	4,73,648
1955-56	32,80,384	23,86,394	2,87,105	1,13,457	1,19,442	2,32,899	1,57,226	318	3,25,040	4,82,584
1956-57	32,80,384	23,92,239	2,91,414	1,18,202	1,16,342	2,34,544	1,56,574	317	3,20,460	4,77,351
1957-58	33,80,384	23,92,513	2,90,819	1,17,481	1,09,189	2,26,670	1,58,543	5,215	3,04,390	4,68,148
1958-59	33,29,530	24,01,352	2,92,619	1,19,394	1,09,924	2,29,318	1,45,988	7,065	2,93,775	4,46,828
1959-60	33,29,530	24,00,898	2,92,640	1,09,793	1,09,471	2,19,264	1,67,068	5,877	2,72,172	4,45,117
1960-61	33,29,530	24,00,881	2,91,702	1,10,306	95,167	2,05,493	1,85,290	5,543	2,64,738	4,55,561
1961-62	33,29,530	24,01,839	2,91,597	38,332	1,76,624	2,14,956	2,84,940	5,543	1,44,701	4,35,184
1962-63	33,29,530	23,93,657	2,91,418	72,967	1,51,694	2,24,661	2,65,770	1,345	1,47,680	4,14,795
1963-64	33,29,530	23,93,703	2,91,325	1,11,038	98,751	2,09,789	2,81,111	1,202	1,36,765	19,078
1964-65	33,29,530	23,94,360	2,91,069	1,10,499	1,10,085	2,20,584	2,22,225	145	1,83,480	4,05,850

Contd....

Year	Fallow Lands			Net Area Shown	Total Cropped Area	Area Shown More Than Once
	Fallow Lands Other Than Current Fallow	Current Fallows	Total			
1	12	13	14	15	16	17
1950-51	61,312	32,234	93,546	12,12,130	12,50,739	38,609
1951-52	1,74,592	26,811	2,01,403	12,27,986	12,54,867	26,881
1952-53	42,011	32,920	74,931	12,27,539	12,51,829	24,290
1953-54	25,499	14,559	40,058	13,17,826	13,62,992	45,166
1954-55	22,145	8,446	30,591	13,46,586	14,10,089	65,503
1955-56	17,541	9,491	27,032	13,56,774	14,38,126	81,352
1956-57	16,305	16,363	32,668	13,56,262	14,54,961	98,699
1957-58	17.949	15,172	33,121	13,78,755	14,27,934	49,179
1958-59	18,437	15,933	34,370	13,98,217	14,97,253	49,036
1959-60	19,177	13,603	32,780	14,11,097	15,50,099	1,39,002
1960-61	18,329	13,468	31,797	14,16,328	15,20,485	1,04,157
1961-62	21,754	11,636	33,390	14,26,712	15,49,673	1,22,961
1962-63	18,629	11,686	30,315	14,32,168	15,39,875	1,07,407
1963-64	13,412	9,021	22,433	14,51,078	15,74,998	1,23,920
1964-65	7,418	11,685	19,103	14,57,754	15,32,931	75,177

....Concluded

TABLE V

Net Area Irrigated

Year	By Canals			By Tanks	By Wells	By Other Sources	Total Net Area Irrigated	Percentage of Net Area Irrigated to Net Area Shown
	Govt.	Private	Total					
1950—51	5	..	5	4,936	23,947	1,197	30,085	2.5
1951—52	939	..	939	2,660	22,653	738	26,990	2.2
1952—53	156	..	156	480	25,212	1,033	26,881	2.2
1953—54	..	..	..	1,903	28,833	1,951	32,687	2.5
1954—55	5,866	..	5,866	1,777	30,060	638	38,341	2.8
1955—56	694	–	694	1,435	32,067	6,628	40,834	3.0
1956—57	2,485	6,257	8,742	..	36,390	339	45,472	3.4
1957—58	694	6,462	7,156	1,644	33,929	95	42,824	3.0
1958—59	1,430	5,143	6,578	2,553	35,444	92	44,667	3.0
1959—60	1,559	7,932	9,491	3,021	38,662	..	51,174	3.6
1960—61	1,683	4,674	6,357	2,800	38,267	3	47,427	3.3
1961—62	1,820	5,154	6,974	3,030	36,372	807	47,183	3.3
1962—63	4,550	3,386	7,936	2,805	37,246	827	48,814	3.4
1963—64	3,451	2,937	6,388	2,489	37,998	236	47,111	3.2
1964—65			7,231	2,878	37,751	360	48,220	3.3

TABLE VI
Irrigation Works
(Completed Works)

S. No.	Location		Date of Completion	Length of Canal System (In miles)	Designed Irrigation Potential (In Acres)
	Name of Work	Tahsil			
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Major-Nil				
	Medium Tanks				
1.	Satak Tank	Kasrawad	1965-66	27	9,500
2.	Gagan Tank	Maheshwar	1965-66	12.50	4,064
	Minor Tanks				
1.	Saslia	Barwaha	1951-52	3	650
2	Jethwai	—do—	1951-52	4	700
3.	Jamnia	—do—	1951-52	1.19	300
4.	Balwada	—do—	1951-52	1	56
5.	Mandleshwar	Maheshwar	1951-52	4	600
6.	Lachhora	Barwaha	1951-52	4	1,250
7.	Ranjit	Rajpur	1951-52	6	1,250
8.	Unchi	—do—	1964-65	1	225
9.	Virla	Khargone	N.A.	4	408
10.	Sarlai	Bhikangaon	1954-55	1.4	150
11.	Nandgaon	Rajpur	N.A.	2.4	240
12.	Kasel	—do—	1960-61	1	50
13.	Ceo	Khargone	1961-62	1.2	250
14.	Surpala	—do—	1963-64	0.8	100
15.	Aulia	Maheshwar	1964-65	0.80	130
16.	Kanapur	Barwaha	1963-64	0.32	50
	Pick-Up-Weirs				
17.	Bandhara	Sendhwa	N.A.	10	600
18.	Surana	Rajpur	1950-51	1	100
19.	Rupa	—do—	N.A.	0.6	100
20.	Talawada	—do—	1950-51	0.6	15
21.	Taloon	Barwani	1950-51	1	50

Contd....

1	2	3	4	5	6
22.	Kundi	Rajpur	1950-51	1.2	50
23.	Pipaldhar	Sendhwa	1950-51	1.5	125
24.	Katiyakhedi	Rajpur	N.A.	1.8	100
25.	Bandhara Khurd	Sendhwa	1952-53	2	300
26.	Bilwa	Rajpur	1950-51	1	50
27.	Moyada	Sendhwa	1951-52	0.5	175
28.	Dendwara	—do—	1952-53	1.5	600
29.	Semalkhodra	—do—	1956-57	1.8	100
30.	Mandil	Rajpur	1958-59	2	150
31.	Raibidpura	Khargone	1960-61	N.A.	100
32.	Ruparel	Bhikangaon	1960-61	N.A.	20
33.	Dalka	Khargone	1961	N.A.	50
34.	Baramatha	Rajpur	1959-60	2	200
35.	Bhami	—do—	1960-61	N.A.	50
36.	Pichodi	Barwani	1960-61	N.A.	50
37.	Chidkhalia Podri	—do—	1960-61	N.A.	25
38.	Panchpala Uttar	—do—	1960-61	N.A.	15
39.	Chikhalia Malan	—do	1960-61	N.A.	15
40.	Silawad	—do—	1960-61	N.A.	90
41.	Sustikheda	—do—	1960-61	N.A.	30
42.	Rasgaon	—do—	1960-61	N.A.	30
43.	Jomda	—do—	1960-61	N.A.	15
44.	Gothania (Deo Falia)	—do—	1960-61	N.A.	15
45.	Karri	—do—	1960-61	N.A.	50
46.	Bomia	—do—	1960-61	N.A.	15
47.	Dhamnai	Sendhwa	1959-60	N.A.	30
48.	Lohari	Kasrawad	1960-61	0.8	20
49.	Bhamori	Khargone	1962-63	N.A.	150
50.	Zirnia	Bhikangaon	1961-62	2.8	300
51.	Mitawal	—do—	—do—	N.A.	75
52.	Hindli	Sendhwa	1962	78	70
53.	Baodhar	—do—	—do—	72	75
54.	Sajwahi	Barwani	1961-62	N.A.	20
55.	Rahgun	—do—	—do—	N.A.	20
56.	Dhamni	—do—	—do—	N.A.	15

Contd...,

1	2	3	4	5	6
57.	Kalyanpura	—do—	—do—	N.A.	15
58.	Morkatta	—do—	—do—	N.A.	20
59.	Gothania (Meg Falia)	—do—	1961-62	N.A.	20
60.	Dongargaon	Sendhwa	1963-64	N.A.	40
61.	Angangaon	—do—	1966-67	N.A.	60
62.	Barud	Khargone	1960-61	N.A.	175
63.	Gulawad	—do—	1965-66	N.A.	75
64.	Salkheda	Rajpur	1966-67	N.A.	50
65.	Jamothi	Khargone	1964-65	N.A.	75
66.	Dhanora	Sendhwa	1966-67	N.A.	35
67.	Auchli	—do—	N.A.	N.A.	30
68.	Chitarai	—do—	N.A.	N.A.	40
69.	Surpula	Khargone	1966	3.1	500

....Concluded

TABLE VII
Area Under Principal Crops

(In Thousand Acres)

Year	Cotton	Jowar	Groundnut	Bajra	Maize	Tur	Wheat
1950-51	299.9	290.5	134.7	84.3	45.5	53.5	74.9
1951-52	326.7	294.0	164.9	79.0	37.0	54.2	58.5
1952-53	319.7	323.2	169.9	92.1	41.5	52.7	35.9
1953-54	354.1	412.5	107.8	108.9	52.5	53.2	50.3
1954-55	404.7	374.4	161.8	93.0	47.3	46.4	64.3
1955-56	426.3	402.3	147.9	84.0	47.8	48.6	76.4
1956-57	356.3	391.3	220.0	72.7	52.2	48.8	95.0
1957-58	340.7	391.7	264.7	70.1	55.6	42.9	72.6
1958-59	349.6	407.9	288.0	65.2	54.2	44.5	83.0
1959-60	353.9	429.2	272.4	56.7	55.1	47.1	101.9
1960-61	369.9	435.7	244.2	59.5	56.2	43.7	85.1
1961-62	401.9	410.1	270.1	61.7	54.6	47.3	83.7
1962-63	394.8	419.8	267.9	64.1	56.7	42.1	87.2
1963-64	441.5	429.6	232.3	65.1	53.9	43.9	86.5
1964-65	464.3	394.4	225.6	66.0	53.8	45.4	72.3

TABLE VIII
Out-Turn of Principal Crops

Year	Cotton ('000 Bales)	Jowar ('000 Tons)	Groundnut ('000 Tons)	Bajra ('000 Tons)	Maize '000) Tons	Tur ('000 Tons)	Wheat ('000 Tons)
1950-51	55.4	22.9	33.0	6.1	3.7	5.0	8.7
1951-52	46.5	10.8	11.7	4.5	2.7	4.1	3.8
1952-53	59.7	14.7	22.1	4.6	3.1	2.8	3.4
1953-54	78.0	47.3	17.0	12.8	5 6	6.7	6.6
1954-55	72.3	70.9	57.8	12.2	9.3	6.0	10.6
1955-56	101.7	80.1	29.8	11.1	6 5	8.7	19.9
1956-57	228 3	134.9	56.2	13.5	5.3	7.1	20.3
1957-58	107.2	95.5	65.5	12.2	8.0	4.5	15.9
1658-59	79.3	89.4	99.0	9.6	23.5	6.3	29.5
1959-60	75.1	66.7	64.7	6.5	9.3	6.9	33.7
1960-61	127,3	112.1	72.8	5.8	18.0	5.2	23.1
1961-62	83.7	62.6	67.5	6.2	16.3	11.5	28.6
1962-63	117.6	118.4	67.9	9.2	19.5	7.2	28.7
1963-64	151.5	85.0	70.4	9.8	23.4	10.3	25.3
1964-65	142.5	98.2	65·4	10.1	22.4	9.4	20.5

TABLE IX

Agricultural Machinery and Implements

Year	Ploughs		Carts	Sugarcane Crushers		Irrigation Pumps		Tractors		Ghanis		Persian Wheels	Motes
	Wooden	Iron		Power	Bullocks	Diesel	Electric	Govt.	Private	5 Srs. or Over	Less Than 5 Srs.		
1951	68,891	3,271	61,083	12	225	181	..			..	..	..	..
1956	92,632 +34	4,762 +46	68,630 +12	10 —17	214 —5	684 +278	5 —	2 —	8 —	99 —	537 —	..	..
1961	1,04,138 +12	7,460 +57	77,451 +13	56 +560	170 —79	1,871 +174	39 +680	9 +350	18 +125	432 +436	293 —55	166 —	17,345 —
Tahsils													
Khargone	16,036	1,062	16,576	3	51	149	6	4	7	223	26	2	2,993
Kasrawad	8,643	353	7,460	36	14	140	4	..	..	8	65	23	1,542
Bhikangaon	14,229	2,898	11,445	—	13	93	—	—	1	12	34	5	583
Sendhwa	20,566	340	9,992	8	5	106	1	2	6	19	22	6	855
Maheshwar	7,128	750	6,021	3	29	99	9	—	1	21	32	29	2,235
Barwaha	10,749	1,221	9,837	3	32	134	10	2	2	59	22	63	3,465
Rajpur	15,595	222	9,906	3	24	282	7	1	1	59	57	32	3,867
Barwani	11,296	14	6,215	—	2	168	2	..	..	31	35	6	1,805

TABLE X
Livestock Population

Year	Cattle	Buffaloes	Sheep	Goats	Horses and Ponies	Mules	Donkeys	Camels	Pigs	Total Livestock
1951	4,97,100	1,51,202	11,104	1,81,404	6,156	8	3,609	23	1,403	8,52,009
1956	5,47,323 +10	1,62,787 +8	11,529 +4	2,05,989 +14	5,277 —14	4 —50	3,664 +2	6 —74	1,529 + 9	9,38,108 +10
1961	6,14,084 +12	1,76,760 +9	8,471 —27	2,42,927 +18	4,665 —12	19 +375	3,924 +7	27 +350	1,680 +10	10,52,557 +11
Tahsils										
Khargone	1.16.201	35,287	767	41,682	1,154	5	807	5	250	1,96,158
Kasrawad	53,475	17,628	759	23,112	443	2	717	..	209	96,345
Bhikangaon	91,947	23,185	84	28,206	507	..	179	3	48	1,44,186
Sendhwa	98,852	20,793	12	29,360	637	10	193	2	244	1,50,103
Maheshwar	40,653	13,561	586	18,453	261	1	421	11	159	74,126
Barwaha	67,414	23,764	37	22,609	486	..	572	...	356	1,15,238
Rajpur	79,869	23,288	4,748	34,956	731	1	722	4	337	1,44,656
Barwani	65,646	19,254	1,478	44,549	426	..	313	2	77	1,31,745

TABLE XI
Poultry Population

Year	Fowls	Ducks	Others	Total Poultry
1951	141,181	131	..	141,312
1956	339,421 +140	162 +24	360 ..	339,043 +140
1961	386,040 +14	244 +51	273 —24	366,557 +14
Tahsils				
Khargone	60,507	20	53	60,580
Kasrawad	14,582	25	21	14,628
Bhikangaon	44,059	11	1	44,071
Sendhwa	108,554	49	23	182,626
Maheshwar	12,918	45	76	13,039
Barwaha	14,770	48	63	14,381
Rajpur	70,677	19	14	70,710
Barwani	59,973	27	22	60,022

TABLE XII
Veterinary Hospitals and Dispensaries

S.No. 1	Name of Institution/Place 2	Tehsil 3	Year of Establishment 4
(I) Hospitals			
1.	Khargone	Khargone	60 years back
2.	Barwaha	Barwaha	15-5-1927
3.	Barwani	Barwani	1-1-1938
4.	Sendhwa	Sendhwa	1-7-1941
5.	Kasrawad	Kasrawad	26-3-1944
6.	Maheshwar	Maheshwar	1-7-1946
7.	Rajpur	Rajpur	1-7-1947
8.	Bhikangaon	Bhikangaon	17-12-1947
9.	Sanawad	Barwaha	1964-65

Contd....

1	2	3	4
10.	Gogaon	Khargone	1965-66
11.	Zirnia	Bhikangaon	1-4-1965
12.	Bhagwanpura	Khargone	1-4-1966
13.	Pati	Barwani	1-4-1966
14.	Pansemal	Sendhwa	1-4-1967
15.	Segaon	Khargone	28-3-1968
(II) Dispensaries			
1.	Rodia	Bhikangaon	6-1-1941
2.	Pansemal	Sendhwa	29-4-1941
3.	Segaon	Khargone	1-2-1946
4.	Anjad	Rajpur	1-6-1949
5.	Sanawad	Barwaha	10-8-1949
6.	Warla	Sendhwa	1-7-1950
7.	Bedia	Barwaha	26-12-1951
8.	Bagod	Barwaha	16-2-1952
9.	Khurrampura	Rajpur	28-3-1952
10.	Silawad	Barwani	1953-54
11.	Dhargaon	Maheshwar	15-9-1954
12.	Dondwah	Bhikangaon	28-5-1955
13.	Balakwada	Kasrawad	15-8-1956
14.	Mitawal	Bhikangaon	26-1-1957
15.	Palsud	Rajpur	20-3-1958
16.	Katkut	Barwaha	27-3-1961
17.	Bistan	Khargone	26-1-1962
18.	Balwada	Barwaha	26-1-1963
19.	Bhilani	Bhikangaon	1963-64
20.	Kurhi	Khargone	1964-65
21.	Thikari	Rajapur	30-3-1965
22.	Khetia	Sendhwa	29-8-1967
(III) Outlying Dispensaries			
1.	Piplaj	Barwani	1-4-1958
2.	Mitawal	Bhikangaon	13-2-1950
3.	Baikuwan	Barwani	1-4-1959
4.	Menimata	Barwani	31-3-1960
5.	Barood	Khargone	8-7-1960
6.	Branmangaon	Rajpur	15-1-1961
7.	Pipalgaon	Kasrawad	21-6-1961
8.	Dhanera	Sendhwa	29-12-1962

......Concluded

TABLE XIII

Number of Industrial Co-operatives

Year	Total No. of Societies	Total No of Members	Total share capital (Owned Fund) (Rs.)	Total working capital (Rs.)	Government aid (a) Loan	Government aid (b) Subsidy	Special facilities to members if any	Running Profit or Loss: Profit	Running Profit or Loss: Loss	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8		9
					Loan	Subsidy		Profit	Loss	
1965-66	90	1535	74,822	411,242	16.100	9,433	100%	10	5	—
1966-67	90	1487	74,822	411,242	—	—	100%	10	5	—
1967-68	52	766	63,837	320,401	7,750	890	100%	7	5	—

TABLE XIV
Electricity Sold

Years	Total No. of cons.	Domestic L and F		Domestic small power		Commercial Light and Fan		Commercial small power	
		Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1965-66	7591	7.470	1.25	.287	—	5.211	.141	.755	—
1966-67	8852	8.570	.163	.266	—	6.053	.172	.903	—
1967-68	10075	12.003	.234	.448	—	8·583	.253	1.208	—

Years	Industrial power low and medium		Public lighting		Irrigation		Public Water works and seveage pumping	
	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural
1	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
1965-66	10.130	.203	2.058	.244	3.191	—	2.950	—
1966-67	11.202	.403	4.217	.109	8.122	—	.065	—
1967-68	15.656	,423	5.014	.156	13.633	—	3.674	—

TABLE XV
Arrivals in Mandi
(Year 1963-64)

(In Quintals)

Commodity		Khetia	Sendhwa	Anjad	Sanawad	Bhikangaon	Khargone	Barwaha
Cotton	..	7,160	99,028	68,261	99,211	50,279	1,50,286	..
Jowar	..	22,853	1,938	..	670	30	4,902	632
Wheat	..	3,954	3,284	..	2,393	..	2,700	1,846
Bajra	..	560	3,669	..	65	..	1,059	59
Maize	..	478	1,332	..	41	18	8,836	1,354
Paddy	..	52	203	..	5	..	383	69
Rice	..	208	..	..	89	4	34	11
Moong	..	5,530	2,037	..	8,068	356	1,013	2,615
Tur	..	1,161	2,453	..	193	96	1,596	389
Chawala	..	61	6,384	..	3,211	361	1,624	555
Urd	..	10,323	18,054	..	2,497	4,507	3,532	2,752
Gram	..	3,103	10,679	..	108	11	2,047	198
Tilli	..	364	3,705	..	311	298	1,071	70
Groundnut	..	21,690	94,460	4,703	10,162	15,136	1,00,312	2,112
Masur	..	..	..	..	60	..	..	99
Methi	..	..	..	..	16	..	..	..
Alsi	..	..	..	..	17	..	..	150
Gur	..	350	..	..	..	..	..	..

TABLE XVI
Bicycles Registered

Year	Barwaha	Bar-wani	Anjad	Khar-gone	Mandles-shwar	Kasrawad	Sendhwa	Khetia	Sanawad	Rajpur	Bhikan-gaon	Mahesh-war.
1956-57	125	168	N.A.	„	—	77	164	65	147	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
1957-58	195	195	N.A.	„	—	81	193	89	218	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
1958-59	150	411	503	„	—	88	208	101	251	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
1959-60	150	412	479	499	—	102	262	111	261	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
1960-61	158	375	479	385	—	102	231	113	194	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
1961-62	204	423	479	461	—	112	374	115	306	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
1962-63	216	574	643	419	148	200	309	117	287	256	122	150
1963-64	250	580	631	377	—	225	347	130	27	293	136	113

N.A.—Not Available.

TABLE XVII
Bullock-Carts Registered

Year	Municipalities								
	Barwani	Barwaha	Sendhwa	Anjad	Khargone	Mandleshwar	Kasrawad	Khetia	Sanawad
1956-57	168	81	132	Upto	..	..	303	193	171
1957-58	195	91	124	1957-58	..	..	276	160	171
1958-59	411	97	107	354	..	..	277	232	209
1959-60	412	103	116	249	397	..	287	227	214
1960-61	325	98	101	279	424	..	305	294	176
1961-62	423	96	71	231	393	..	318	308	209
1962-63	520	97	86	409	225	130	400	311	202
1963-64	338	97	107	423	204	..	450	325	256

TABLE—XVIII
Number of Transport Co-operative Societies

Year	Co-operative Farming	Better Farming	Service	Total No. of Societies	Totel number of members	Total share capital (owned fund) (Rs.)	Total working capital (Rs)	Govt. aid Loan	Govt. aid Sub.	Total area covered	Special facilities to members if any	Running profit/less	Remarks
1965-66	..	..	..	1	12	300	300	..		..	—	..	—
1966-67	..	..	..	1	12	300	300	..		..	..	..	—
1967-68	..	..	..	1	11	1025	1025	..		..	..	—	..

TABLE XIX
Bridges and Causeways

S. No.	Name of Road	Length M Fr.	No. of Bridges, culverts and causeways as on 31-3-1965	31-3-1966	31-3-1967	31-3-68
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
I.	**NATIONAL HIGHWAYS No. 3.**					
1.	Agra Bombay road from M. No. 42 to 104 (Indore South)	63-0	285	285	285	285
II.	**STATE HIGHWAYS**					
1.	Indore Simrol Khedighat Rd. From M. No. 27 to 41/2	14-2	35	35	35	35
2.	Khargone Bistan road	9-6	27	27	27	27
3.	Mandleshwar Khargone Road	20-0	40	40	40	40
4.	Kasrawad Khalghat Road	11-0	18	18	18	18
5.	Barwani Rajghat Road	3-0	14	14	14	14
6.	Barwani Julwania road	28-0	66	66	66	66
7.	Khargone Oon Julwania Road	26-0	66	66	66	66
8.	Khargone Diversion Road	37-5	74	74	74	74
9.	Khargone Diversion Road	1-2	3	3	3	3
III.	**MAJOR DISTRICT ROADS**					
1.	Sanawad Khargone Road	42-0	131	132	132	132
2.	Sanawad Sulgaon Road	3-2	7	7	8	8
3.	Niwali Sendhwa Road	12-2	20	20	20	20
4.	Rajpur Khetia Road	49-2	96	96	96	96
5.	Barwaha Maheshwar Dhamnod Road	38-4	61	61	61	61
6.	Anjar Talawada Thikari Road	22-6	57	57	57	57
7.	Sendhwa Warala Road	8-0	—	17	22	35
	Total length of road 24-6 there are 3 C.D. in M. one to 12.					
8	Bawangaja Pati Road	10-1	..	..	..	..
9.	Barwani Bawangaja Road	4-5	9	9	9	9
10.	Mandleshwar Kasrawad Road	6-4	9	9	9	9
11.	Mandleshwar Navghat Road	0.5	..	..	..	..
12.	Mandleshwar to Mandleshwar Tank	1-5	1	1	1	1
13.	Jamghat Bagdara Road	7-2	..	..	..	..

Contd....

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
14.	Khetia Hindholbara Road	16-0	..	..	..	..
15.	Pati Bokrata Hindholbrara Road	16-0	..	..	..	..
VI. ORDINARY (MAJOR) DISTRICT ROADS						
1.	Barwani Silawad Road	13-2	..	--	..	--
2.	Bilwa Taloon Road	6-3	...	..	..	..
3.	Gogawa Ghughriyakhedi Road	6-3	21	21	21	21
4.	Barwani Ghongsa Road	22-6	..	..	..	--
5.	Rajpur Morani Road	4-0	--	..	..	..
6.	Talwada Dhabavdi Road	6-0	--	--	--	--
7.	Rajpur Mandlwada Road	7	7	7	7	7
8.	Rajpur Dawana Road	14-0	9	9	9	9
9.	Nimrani Satkut Road	7-4	..	--	--	--
10.	Selani Balkwada Road	7-0	--	--	--	--
11.	Balakwada Singun Road	5-0	--	--	--	--
12.	Kasrawad Pipalgaon Road	14-2	3	3	3	3
13.	Mandleshwar Mahetwada Road	5-0	--	..	..	--
14.	Rajpur Pipri Road	4-4	--	..	..	--
15.	Bamandi Balakwada Road	6-3	13	13	13	13
16.	Barud Sinkheda Road	5-0	..	..	..	..
17.	Barwani Awalda Road	8-0	..	...	...	...
18.	Silawada Vedpuri Road	3-0	..	..	..	...
19.	Talwada Balkuwa Rahgun Road	4-6	5	5	5	5
20.	Julwania Chhoti Khargone	4-0	3	3	3	3
21.	Ambapani Singun Road	4-0	2	2	2	2
22.	Anjar Barda Raod	4-0	1	1	1	1
23.	Kasrawad Navdatodi Road	3-3	..	..	..	--
24.	Palsood Majali Road	4-2	3	3	3	3
25.	Dawana Khurampura Road	7-2	4	4	4	4
26.	Karhi Kataigaon Road	5-0	3	3	3	3
27.	Junazira Vedpuri Road	5-2	...	--	--	--
OTHER ROADS (VILLAGE ROADS)						
1.	Satarati Bhoirda Road	6-0	..	..	--	--
2.	Babiai Bagdama Road	7-0	..	...	...	--

Contd.....

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3.	Barwani Silawad *via* Chuna Bhatti Road	10-0	..	..	..	..
4.	Silawad Pati Road	12-0	..	..	..	..
5.	Anjar Mohipura Road	4-0	..	..	..	..
6.	Anjar Surana Road	6-0	..	..	..	..
7.	Pansemal Bandara Road	4-0	..	..	..	..
8.	Osda RosarRoad	9-0	..	..	..	..
9.	Dawana Bharamangaon Road	3-0	2	2	2	2
10.	Bikwa Bhagsur Road	3-0	2	2	2	2
11.	Multhan Badi Road	8-0	..	..	..	..
12.	Thikri Jarwai Road	3-0	..	..	..	..
13.	Basvi Approach Road	1-2	..	..	..	..
14.	Khedi Approach Road	2-5	..	..	..	..
15.	Chandanpuri Approach Road	1-2	..	..	..	..
16.	Satkur Bhilgaon Road	3-0	6	6	6	6
17.	Ohaba Khamlai Road	2-0	1	1	1	1
18.	Bhilgaon approach Road	1-6	..	..	..	..
19.	Ozar Goawaghati Road	2-0	1	1	1	1
20.	Naktimata Talwada Road	1-6	2	2	2	2
21.	Balkuwa Dhababaddi Road	2-7	..	..	..	..
22.	Khajuri Approach Road	3-6	..	..	..	..
23.	Kesal Bhagsur Morani Road	3-0	..	..	..	..
24.	Agalgaon approach Road	1-6	..	..	..	..
25.	Satkur Balsamad Road	1-7	..	..	..	..
26.	Sali Approach Road	2-4	..	..	..	..
27.	Dawana Kaloni Road	4-0	..	..	..	..
28.	Baruphatak Khajuri Road	2-3	..	..	..	..
29.	Balsamad Approach Road	0-7	..	..	..	..
30.	Abhali Ghatwa Road	2-6	..	..	..	..
31.	Dondwara Malkatar Road	2-6	..	..	..	..

....Concluded

TABLE—XX
Strength & Cost of Civil Police

Year	Supdts., Asstt. Dy. Supdts. S. P.	A. S. P.	DSP	Inspr. & Sub-Inspr. CI	SI	ASI	Sergeants and Head Constables	Foot Constables	Total	Cost of Police
1956	1	..	2	4	39	..	91	612	749	8,91,888
1957	1	—	2	4	39	..	91	612	749	9,94,006
1958	1	..	2	4	39	..	91	612	749	10,17,411
1959	1	..	3	5	39	..	91	612	751	11,15,683
1960	1	..	3	5	39	..	110	587	745	10,49,771
1961	1	..	3	5	43	..	116	607	775	11,40,867
1962	1	..	3	5 Subedar	39	5 1	119	622	795	11.05,025
1963	1	1	2	5	43	..	118	625	755	11,05,025
1964	1	1	2	5	47	..	118	625	799	11,89,559

TABLE XXI
Witnesses Examined & Discharged

Year	Number of witnesses discharged after examination	Number of witnesses discharged without examination	Number of witnesses discharged after or without examination with period of attendance in Court				Number of witnesses to whom payments were made by Government	Amount paid (Rs)
			On the First day	On the second day	On the third day	after the third day		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1956	4.414	753	4,274	581	193	68	2,783	10,452
1957	4,471	1,931	4,532	841	383	75	2,721	5,532
1958	5,834	1,464	5,687	1,066	423	120	3,314	8,931
1959	5,477	1,604	5,462	1,111	382	126	2,334	4,721
1960	4,878	900	4,529	817	344	88	2,289	5,641
1961	4,824	753	4,236	730	410	201	2,282	6,490
1962	6,141	743	5,086	1,034	593	171	3,035	7,962
1963	8,037	860	6,907	1,309	445	236	3,888	11,057
1964	7,928	951	6,981	1,203	507	188	4,242	13,201
1965	..	..	6,545	1,435	843	201	..	12,525
1966	..	..	6,299	1,405	529	469	..	14,304
1967	..	..	7,354	2,176	902	..	..	16,047
1968	..	..	8,584	1,840	755	211	..	20,650

TABLE XXII
Fines Imposed by Various Criminal Courts

Year		Balance of fines remaining to be realized at the close of previous year	Amount of fines imposed during the year	Total for realization	Amount struck off as unrealizable	Amount remitted on appeal or revision before realization	Amount realized during the year	Balance to be realized
1956	..	15,785	24,335	40,120	3,241	985	20,464	15,430
1957	..	15,470	26,692	42,132	917	4,288	21,753	15,164
1958	..	15,164	49,388	64,552	5,755	5,760	40,913	12,124
1959	..	12,124	51,458	63,582	1,520	5,357	45,325	11,380
1960	..	11,380	49,403	60,783	1,334	370	47,089	11,990
1961	..	11,990	63,491	75,481	6,691	2,726	58,252	7,812
1962	..	7,812	97,895	1,05,707	4,493	3,630	84,233	13,351
1963	..	13,351	1,60,029	1,73,380	5,361	13,080	1,19,805	35,134
1964	..	35,134	91,463	1,26,597	3,760	9,270	78,585	34,962
1965	..	1	1,15,109	..	3,490	..	86,690	..
1966	..	..	75,531	..	3,990	..	60,093	..
1967	..	..	1,29,483	..	7,370	..	1,18,971	..
1968	..	..	1,77,850	..	8,456	..	1,67,576	..

TABLE XXIII

Civil Appellate Courts—Appeals From Decrees

Year	Number of appeals before the Courts			Appeals from Decrees				Remanded	Pending at close of the year	Pending for more than a year
	Pending at the beginning of the year	Instituted during the year	Total	Dismissed or not prosecuted	Confirmed	Modified	Reserved			
1956	595	386	981	37	142	32	21	21	726	578
1957	723	368	1,091	39	148	23	29	17	835	574
1958	835	334	1,169	47	184	16	84	20	818	509
1959	818	281	1,099	38	319	59	108	31	543	542
1960	543	502	1,045	36	348	69	89	27	290	121
1961	290	296	586	25	179	37	61	13	259	84
1962	259	300	559	35	132	21	38	12	321	102
1963	321	279	600	27	184	14	49	21	310	89
1964	310	257	607	25	179	28	15	54	266	100

TABLE XXIV

Civil Appellate Courts—Miscellaneous Appeals

Year	Number of appeals before the Courts				Appeals Disposed of (Excluding Transfer)				Remanded	Pending for more than a year.	Pending at close of the year
	Pending at the beginning of the year	Instituted during the year	Otherwise received	Total	Dismissed or not prosecuted	Confirmed	Modified	Reversed			
1956	13	42	1	56	6	16	2	3	6	23	9
1957	23	49	..	72	.	30	1	8	3	30	5
1958	30	35	1	66	4	16	..	12	..	34	9
1959	34	39	..	73	1	25	2	5	..	40	13
1960	40	38	19	97	9	37	5	7	6	14	6
1961	14	56	..	70	16	26	3	4	1	20	1
1962	20	56	1	77	10	26	3	8	1	29	1
1963	29	34	1	64	2	31	4	8	1	17	2
1964	17	42	..	59	6	23	1	8	1	19	2

TABLE XXV
Progress of 1947-1964 Primary Education

Year	Institutions			Enrolment			Teachers			Expenditure (in Rs.)		
	Primary	Compulsory primary	Junior Basic	Primary	Compulsory Primary	Junior Basic	Primary	Compulsory Primary	Junior Basic	Primary	Compulsory Primary	Junior Basic
1947-48	111	..	..	10,330	..	..	292	..	..	..	.	..
1951-52	244	..	..	12,984	..	..	559	..	..	3,46,206	1,887	..
1955-56	571	68	93	27,722	5,980	4,026	1,159	143	167	7,62,991	2,25,621	1,26,646
1960-61	772	82	8‾	31,475	6,248	4,461	1,266	172	166	14,05,215	2,33,555	2,14,144
1963-64	934	83	89	47,691	7,219	5,852	1 633	183	173	19,52,322	2,46,758	1,91,809

(Note:—The information given in the table relates to the government schools)

TABLE XXVI
Progress of Education
(1965-66 to 1967-68)

Period	Category of Schools	No. of Schools		No. of Students		Teachers	
		Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Males	Females
1965-66	Pre-Primary	8	..	214	162	2	9
At the end	Primary	832	87	35,487	12,392	1,307	205
of III Plan.	Junior Basic	76	..	4,225	611	146	..
	Middle	113	13	18,223	5,892	793	129
	Senior Basic	9	..	2,253	112	97	..
	Higher Secondary Schools	26	6	8,715	1,850	894	170
1966-67	Pre-Primary	6	..	219	201	3	13
	Primary	779	91	37,159	13,700	228	218
	Junior Basic	75	..	4,454	621	147	1
	Middle	113	14	18,906	6,973	897	126
	Senior Basic	9	..	2,368	143	..	..
	Higher Secondary Schools	26	8	8,957	2,711	461	97
1967-68	Pre-Primary	39	..	975	145	4	7
	Primary	821	96	36,451	14,283	1,399	225
	Junior Basic	75	..	4,329	659	148	2
	Middle	134	14	25,637	7,939	936	137
	Senior Basic	9	..	2,471	115	85	..
	Higher Secondary School	27	8	9,745	2,668	495	83

TABLE XXVII

Public Health Activities in Blocks

S. No.	Name of the Block	New Wells Constructed	Existing Wells Repaired	Surface Drainage (Ft)	Latrines Constructed	Soakage pits	Urinals	Bathing Places	Cattle Sheds	Smokeless Chulhas	Hand pumps installed
1.	Barwaha	3	—	900	12	706	23	43	—	113	—
2.	Khargone	3	8	Nil	16	689	—	—	110	—	3
3.	Rajpur	6	2	Nil	26	356	—	—	—	—	4
4.	Sendhawa	18	2	3,500	3	214	22	22	208	—	—
5.	Kasarawad	10	9	1,000	17	382	44	—	—	174	—
6.	Thikri	5	7	3,000	54	607	—	80	59	—	—
7.	Bhikangaon	19	15	1,000	44	517	—	173	80	—	—
8.	Barwani	13	—	350	12	111	33	12	54	16	—

APPENDIX—B-I
List of Fairs

S No.	Place where Fair is held	When Held: Hindi Months	When Held: English Months	Local religious or other occasion of the Fair	Duration of the Fair (in days)	Average total attendance	who manages the Fair
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
				1. BARWAHA TAHSIL			
1.	Okhala	Phalguna *Sudi* 13	February/March	Okhaleshwar Mahadeo	1	300/400	Gram Panchayat
2.	Sanawad	No certain date	November	Peeranpeer *ka Mela*	15	2,000	Local People
3.	Badgaon	No certain date	..	Nagdeota *ka Mela*	1	300	—
				2. MAHESHWAR TAHSIL			
4.	Barud	Bhadra *Badi* 30	August/September	Pola	1	N.A.	Local People
5.	Maheshwar	No certain date	January	Fazal Shah *ki chhori ka Mela*	1	N.A.	Muslim Community
6.	Shiva	Phalguna	February/March	Okhara *Mela*	1	N.A.	Gram Panchayat
7	Barud	Phalguna *Badi* 13	February/March	Shivratri	1	N.A.	Local People
8.	Piplya	No certain date	December	Kalu Maharaj	30	10,000	Gram Panchayat
				3. BARWANI TAHSIL			
9.	Bamandi	Chaitra	March/April	Durgaji *ka Mela*	16	N.A.	Local People
10.	Thikari	Chaitra	March/April	Thikari Jatra	1	N.A.	Local People
11.	Gogawa	Vaisakha *Badi* 1	April/May	Mahabir *ka Mela*	2	N.A.	Gram Panchayat
12.	Dasnawal	Vaisakha	April/May	Takhat Baba *ka Mela*	1	N.A.	Gram Panchayat
13.	Rasgaon	No certain date	April	Gayatri *ka Mela*	9	N.A.	Local People

Contd.....

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
14.	Kajoori	Asvina *Sudi* 15 to Kartika *Badi* 30	September/October	Deepawali	15	N.A.	Local People
15.	Dawala	Kartika *Badi* 5	October/November	Dawala *Yatra*	15	N.A.	Gram Panchayat
16.	Menimata	Magha *Sudi* 5	January/February	Jagdamba Mata *ka Mela*	8	300	Local People
			4. RAJPUR TAHSIL				
17.	Thikari	Chaitra	March/April	Khanderao Baba	15	3,000	..
18.	Khurrumpura	Chaitra *Sudi* 5	March/April	Badhai Mata *ka Mela*	11	500	..
19.	Onzar	Chaitra *Sudi* 5	March/April	Guptcshwar Mahadeo	12	3,000	..
20.	Nagalwadi	Vaisakha *Sudi* 2	April/May	Bhilat Baba	3	500	..
21.	Sajgaon	Sravana *Sudi* 8	July/August	Vidya Devi *ka Mela*	1	N.A	..
22.	Khujri	Asvina *Sudi* 15	September/October	Singhaji *ka Mela*	15	1,500	..
23.	Dawana	Kartika *Badi* 7	October/November	Bhavsing Baba *ka Mela*	15	2,000	..
24.	Anjad	Phalguna *Badi* 13	February-March	Shivratri	20	5,000	..
			5. KASRAWAD TAHSIL				
25	Multhan	Vaisakha	April/May	Ashpuri Mata *ka Mela*	30	1,500	Gram Panchayat
26.	Nagalwadi	Sravana *Sudi* 5	July/August	Nag Panchmi	1	500	Gram Panchayat
27.	Onzar	.	November	Shankarji *ka Mela*	16	N.A.	Gram Panchayat
28.	Shegaon	..	January	Balbai Phulbai *ka Mela*	7	N.A.	Gram Panchayat
29.	Oon	..	January	Maha Laxmi Devi *Mela*	8	2,000	Kendra Panchayat
30.	Bedia	..	February	Jatra	7	N.A.	Local People
31.	Jalalabad (Vijayagarh)	Phalguna *Badi* 13	February/March	Maha Shivratri	3	N.A.	Gram Panchayat

Cnntd.....

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
			6. SENDHWA TAHSIL				
32.	Pansemal	Chaitra *Sudi* 7-12	March/April	Shree Ramlila	5	1,000	—
33.	Mahetgaon	Sravana	July/August	Badhai Mata	1	N.A.	—
34.	Babdad	Sravana	July/August	Badhai Mata	1	N.A.	—
35.	Madgaon	Sravana	July/August	Badhai Mata	1	100	—
36.	Raigarhi Peak	Every Thrusday in Sarvana	July/August	Tajuddin Baba	4/5	N.A.	—
37.	Bijasan	No certain date	October	Bijasan Mata	9	N.A.	—
38.	Bandhara	Pausa/Magha	January	Shankarji	3	N.A.	..
39.	Sendhwa	No certain date	January	Miskinvaliullah Baba *ka Urs*	3	N.A.	..
40.	Warla	Magha *Sudi* 14-15	January/February	Falshah Baba	2	200	..
41.	Khutwadi	Magha *Sudi* 5	January/February	Shankarji	3	300	—
42.	Sendhwa	Phalguna *Badi* 13	February/March	Deoziri *Mela*	7	5,000	..
43.	Lawani	Phalguna	February/March	Holi	1	N.A.	..
44.	Khedi	Phalguna	February/March	Holi	1	N.A.	..
45.	Jalgaon	Phalguna *Badi* 13-15	February/March	Bandhareshwar *Mela*	3	N.A.	..
			7. KHARGONE TAHSIL				
46.	Pansemal	Chaitra *Sudi* 9	March/April	Ramnavmi	1	N.A.	Local People
47.	Khetia	Chaitra *Badi* 5	March/April	Mataji *ka Mela*	1	N.A.	Local People
48.	Malka	Kartika *Sudi* 15	October/November	Mata *ka* Mela	..	N.A.	Local People
49.	Khargone	Kartika	October/November	Navagarh *Mela*	21	N.A.	Municipal Committee
50.	Pansemal	Pausa	December/January	Motizata *ka Mela*	1	N.A.	Local People

Contd.....

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
51.	Anjar	Phalguna *Badi* 13	February/March	Shivratri	1	N.A.	Municipal Committee
52.	Rewazin	Phalguna *Badi* 13	February/March	Shivratri	15	N.A.	Local People
				8. BHIKANGAON TAHSIL			
53.	Marugarh	Chaitra *Sudi* 6	March/April	Bhawani Raoti *Mela*	4	N.A.	Gram Panchayat
54.	Sagur	Chaitra *Sudi* 1-15	March/April	Bagheshwari Devi	15	12,000	..
55.	Sagur	Asvina *Sudi* 1-15	September/October	Bagheshwari Devi	15	15,000	..
56.	Goradiya	Magha *Sudi* 10	January/February	Samar Deo baba *ka Mela*	15	N.A.	Gram Panchayat
57.	Goradiya	Magha	January/February	Banjara Festival	..	N.A.	Gram Panchayat
58.	Ratanpur	No fixed date	..	Latif Shah baba *ka Urs*	..	N.A.	Gram Panchayat

....Concluded.

APPENDIX—B-II
List of Post Offices

Situation of Head Post office	Situation of Sub-office	Branch office Permanent	Experimental	Telegraph office	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Khargone	Khargone	Bhagawanpura	Khargone	
		Balakvada	Dhulkot	Head Post-Office	
		Damnala	Ghegaon		
		Barud	Keli		
		Bistan	Likhi		
		Gogaon	Multhan		
		Lonara	Nagjhira		
		Mohammadpur	Nandgaon		
		Segaon	Raibidpura		
		Khargone			
	Khargone	Collectorate	Singun		
			Temla		
			Thiggaon		
			Umarkhali		
			Khargone		
		Khargone	Oil Mills		
	Anjad	Anjad	Haribad	Anjad	
		Talwada Deb	Mandwada		
			Talwada		
	Burwaha	Barwaha		Burwaha	
		Bagod			
		Balwada			
		Dhangaon			
		Jothwai			
		Karhai			
		Katkut			
		Mardana			
		Nandhara			
		Padliya			
		Pipalgaon			
		Piplya (Buzurg)			
		Soma Khedi			

Contd ...

1	2	3	4	5	6
	Barwani	Barwani	Bhavati	Barwani	
			Bijasani		
			Borlai		
			Patti		
			Silwada		
	Bhikangaon	Bhikangaon	Banjhar	Bhikangaon	
		Jhirhya	Chainpur		
		Sheopan			
	Dhamnod	Dhamnod		Dhamnod	
		Barufatak			
		Brahmangaon			
		Davand			
		Julwania			
		Khalghat			
		Ozhar			
		Satrati			
		Thikri			
	Kasrawad	Kasrawad	Bamandi	Kasrawad	
		Balsamud			
	Khetia	Khetia		Khetia	
		Dondwada			
		Pansemal			
	Maheshwar	Maheshwar	Narmada	Maheshwar	
	Mandleshwar	Mandleshwar		Mandleshwar	
		Choli			
	Rajpur	Rajpur	Rangaon Deb	Rajpur	
		Newali			
		Palsud			
	Sanawad	Sanawad	Dhapalgaon	Sanawad	
		Bedia	Kanapur		
		Barud	Rodia		
		Bhalgaon			
		Dodwan			
	Sendhwa	Sendhwa	Balsamud	Sendhwa	
		Balwadi	Chatli		
		Malwani	Dugarni		
		Warla	Mahidgaon		
			Zopali		

....Concluded.

APPENDIX—B-III
List of Rest-Houses & Circuit Houses

No. 1	Name of Tahsil 2	Situation of Rest-Houses, etc. 3	Category of accommodation 4	Situation on the Road 5	Responsibility of maintenance. 6
I.	Khargone	1. Khargone	Inspection Bungalow	Khargone-Mandleshwar Road	P.W.D.
		2. Gogaon	—do—	Sanawad-Khargone Road	—do—
		3. Pipalzopa	Rest-House	..	Forest Department
		4. Sirvel	—do—	..	—do—
		5. Kabri	—do—	..	—do—
II.	Bhikangaon	1. Bhikangaon	Inspection Bungalow	Khargone-Deshgaon Road	P.W.D.
		2. Bhatalpura	—do—	—do—	—do—
		3. Chiria Mundia	Rest-House	..	Forest Department
		4. Ahir-Kheda	Dak Bungalow	..	P.W.D.
III.	Barwaha	1. Nedoa	Rest-House	..	—do—
		2. Barwaha	Inspection Bungalow	Barwaha-Maheshwar Road	—do—
		3. Sanawnd	Dak Bungalow	Indore-Khandwa Road	—do—
IV.	Maheshwar	1. Maheshwar	Inspection Bungalow	Barwaha-Maheshwar Dhamnod Rd.	—do—
		2. Mandleshwar	—do—	—do—	—do—
		3. Piplia	—do—	—do—	—do—

Contd....

1	2	3	4	5	6
V.	Kasrawad	1. Khalghat	Inspection Bungalow D.B.	Agra-Bombay Road	P.W.D.
		2. Kasrawad	—do—	Mandleshwar-Khargone Road	—do—
		3. Selani	—do—	—do—	—do—
VI.	Rajpur	1. Rajpur	—do—	..	—do—
		2. Julwania	(a) Inspedtion Bungalow		—do—
			(b) Dak Bungalow	Agra-Bombay Road	—do—
		3. Dawana	Inspection Bungalow	..	—do—
			(a) Circuit House		
			(b) Dak Bungalow		
VII.	Barwani	Barwani	Barwani-Julwania Road		—do—
VIII.	Sendhwa	1. Sendhwa	(a) Inspection Bungalow	Agra-Bombay Rd.	(a) P.W.D.
			(b) Dak Bangalow	—do—	(b) —do—
			(c) Rest House	—do—	(c) Forest Department
		2. Pansemal	—do—	Indore-Sendhwa Rd.	P.W.D.
		3. Khetia	—do—	Niwali-Sendhwa Rd.	—do—
		4. Palsood	—do—	Indore-Julwania Rd.	—do—
		5. Niwali	Dak Bungalow	Sendhwa Rd.	—do—

....Concluded

APPENDIX—B-IV

List of Ferries

S. No. 1	Tahsil 2	Name of ferry 3	Name of road on which situated. 4	Remarks. 5
1.	Barwani	Rajghat	Barwani-Rajghat road	—
2.	Rajpur	Brahmangaon Barda	Dawana-Brahamangaon road	The Pucca road upto Brahamangaon
3.	—do—	Barda	Anjar-Barda road	—do— upto Barda only.
4.	—do—	Nalwaya	Talwada-Deb to Nalwaya	The ferry is 3 miles away from Talwada.
5.	—do—	Detrada	Mandwada to Lohara	The Ferry is 4 miles from Mandwara
6.	—do—	Kirmehi	Mandwara to Kirmohi	—do—
7.	—do—	Datwada	Anjar tc Datawada	The ferry is 4 miles away from Anjar
8.	—do—	Golata	Anjar to Golata	—do— 3 miles —do—
9.	—do—	Awli	Borlai to Awli	—do— 4 miles —do— Borlai
10.	—do—	Segaon	Borlai to Segaon	—do— —do—
11.	Barwani	Piplod	Taloon to Piplod	—do— 3 miles —do— Barwani
12.	—do—	Kasrawad	Barwani-Pichori	—do— 3 miles —do— Barwani
13.	—do—	Pichori	Barwani-Pichori	—do— —do— ,
14.	—do—	Sondui	Barwani Awalda-Soundul road	There is a pucca road to Awalda 8 miles there after Kutcha road upto Bijasani.
15.	—do—	Jangarwa	Barwani-Awalda road	There is a pucca road upto Awalda and there after katcha road upto Jangarwa 1 mile.
16.	—do—	Bijasani	Barwani-Awalda-Bijasani	There is a pucca road upto Awalda 8 miles and there after katcha road upto Jangarwa 1 mile.
17.	Kasrawad	Kathora	Only katcha road joins at Dharampuri	

1	2	3	4	5
18.	Kasrawad	Navdatodi	Kasrawad Navadatodi road	
19.	—do—	Makadhheda	Mandleshwar-Khargone road	
20.	—do—	Lepa	Only Katcha track	
21.	Barwaha	Mardana	—do—	
22.	—do—	Ali	—do—	
23.	—do—	Khedighat	Indore-Khandwa road	
24.	—do—	Burwaha Mahel	—do—	
25.	—do—	Murda	No road	
26.	—do—	Ualood	—do—	
27.	—do—	Mandleshwar	Burwaha-Maheshwar Dhamnod	The *ghat* is situated 6 fr. away from main road connected with approaches to ghats.
28.	—do—	Maheshwar	—do—	The *ghat* is situated about 7 fr. from road.
29.	Manwar	Khalghat	Agra-Bombay road	There are no ferries to pass the passenger, but only small boats.

APPENDIX—B-V

List of Medical Institutions

Sr. No. 1	Name of Institution 2	Place 3
1.	Distt. Hospital	Barwani
2.	Main Hospital	Khargone
3.	Civil Hospital	Mandleshwar
4.	—do—	Anjad
5.	—do—	Sanawad
6.	Civil Dispensary	Bistan
7.	—do—	Barud
8.	—do—	Dhanora
9.	—do—	Khetia
10.	—do—	Pulsood
11.	—do—	Ozhar
12.	—do—	Bedia
13.	—do—	Bagoad
14.	—do—	Padlia
15.	—do—	Warla
16.	Primary Health Centre	Pati
17.	—do—	Silawad
18.	—do—	Rajpur
19.	—do—	Niwali
20.	—do—	Pansemal
21.	—do—	Sendhwa
22.	—do—	Segaon
23.	—do—	Oon
24	—do—	Gogaon
25.	—do—	Bhikangaon
26.	—do—	Barwaha
27.	—do—	Zirnia
28.	—do—	Bhagwanpura
29.	—do—	Maheshwar
30.	—do—	Kasrawad
31.	—do—	Thikari
32	—do—	Julwania

Contd....

1	2	3
33.	Ungraded Dispensary	Talwada
34.	—do—	Baruphatak
35.	—do—	Nagalwadi
36.	—do—	Brahamangaon
37.	—do—	Balakwada
38.	—do—	Balsamud
39.	—do—	Multhan
40.	—do—	Choli
41.	—do—	Somakhedi
42.	—do—	Dhargaon
43.	—do—	Mardana
44.	—do—	Bagarada
45.	—do—	Kanapur
46.	—do—	Jethwai
47.	—do—	Bamnala
48.	—do—	Shivana
49.	—do—	Ghegaon
50.	—do—	Raibidpura
51.	—do—	Umarkhali
52.	—do—	Nagziri
53.	—do—	Zopali
54.	—do—	Balwadi
55	—do—	Dhakalgaon
56.	Ayurvedic Dispensary	Bhavati
57.	—do—	Gandhawal
58.	—do—	Soundul
59.	—do—	Balkuwan
60.	—do—	Bhagsoor
61.	—do—	Khurmpura
62.	—do—	Dawana
63.	—do—	Bilwadeb
64.	—do—	Haribad
65.	—do—	Abhali
66.	—do—	Mandwada
67.	—do—	Pipalgaon

Contd....

1	2	3	4	5
68.	—do—		Borawan	
69.	—do—		Singoon	
70.	—do—		Chandanpuri	
71.	—do—		Bamnadi	
72.	—do—		Ashapur	
73.	—do—		Karhi	
74.	—do—		Bablia	
75.	—do—		Piplia Buj	
76.	—do—		Balwada	
77.	—do—		Ratanpur	
78.	—do—		Katkut	
79.	—do—		Dodwan	
80.	—do—		Anjangaon	
81.	—do—		Banzhar	
82.	—do—		Mitawal	
83.	—do—		Chainpur	
84.	—do—		Likhi	
85.	—do—		Mohammadpur	
86.	—do—		Mortalia	
87.	—do—		Nandgaon Bagud	
88.	—do—		Dashnawal	
89	—do—		Dhulkot	
90.	—do—		Keli	
91.	—do—		Lonara	
92.	—do—		Dhavali	
93.	—do—		Chatli	
94.	—do—		Malwad	
95.	—do—		Chachriapati	
	PRIVATE HOSPITAL			
96.	Misson Hospital		Mandleshwar	
97.	Janta Hospital		Mandleshwar	

....Concluded.

APPENDIX—B-VI

List of Common Agricultural Diseases & Pests

S.No. 1	Name of Crop 2	Diseases 3	Pests 4
1.	Paddy	Blast (*Piricularia oryzae*), Foot rot (*Fusarium moniliforme*). Stem rot (*Sclerotium oryzae*), Leaf spot (*Helminthosporium oryzae*)	Stem borer (*Schoenobius incertulas*), Rice bug (*Leptocorisa acuta*).
2.	Jowar	Smut, Striga (*Striga lutea*)	Stem borer (*Chilozonellus*)
3.	Bajra	Smut (*Tolyposporium penicillariae*), Green ear (*Sclerospora graminicola*)	
4.	Maize	Downy mildew (*Sclerospora philippinensis*), Smut	
5.	Sugarcane	Red rot (*Colletotrichum falcatum*), Smut (*Ustilago scitaminea*)	Top shoot borer (*Scirpophaga nivella*) Root borer (*Emmalocer depressella*), Stem borer (*Argyria stiticrapis*), Pyrilla
6.	Cotton	Wilt Black arm (*Xenthomonas malvacearum*), Grey mildew (*Ramularia areola*), Anthracnose (*Colletotrichum Indicum*)	Jassids (*Empoasea devastans*), Thrips, Spotted boll worm (*Eurias fabia*), Red cotton bug (*Dysdercus cingulatus*), Dusky cotton bug (*Oxycaroenus lectus*), Pink bill worm (*Platyedra gossypiella*)
7.	Groundnut	Root rot (*Rhizoctonia*), Wilt. Tikka (*Cercospora Personata*)	Aphids, Cut worm
8.	Tur	Wilt (*Fusarium udum*)	Tur pod bug (*Clavigralla horrens*)
9	Moong & urad	Leaf spot	Hairy caterpillar (*Diacrisia obliqua*)
10.	Gram	Wilt	Cut worm (*Agrotis ypsilon*)
11.	Linseed	Wilt (*Fusarium lini*), Rust (*Melampsora lini*)	

Contd.....

1	2	3	4
12.	Chillies	Anthracnose	Mites, Thrips
13.	Onion		Thrips (*Thrips tabaci*)
14.	Mango	Powdery mildew (*Oidium mangiferae*—	Mango hopper (*Idiocerus*)
15.	Papaya	Foot rot (*Pythium aphanidermatum*)	
16.	Lemon	Lemon canker (*Xanthomonas citri*)	Lemon butter fly (*Papilio demoleus*), Caterpillar
17.	Santra (Orange)	Die back (*Colletotrichum gloeosporioides*)	Moth borer (*Indarbela quadrinotata*) Fruit moth (*Othreis*),
18.	Mosammi	Gummosis (*Phytophthora*)	Fruit piercing moth (*Othreis fullonica*), *fly*
19.	Banana	Bunchy top, Foot rot	

....Concluded.

APPENDIX—B-VII

Conversion Table

1. WEIGHTS

Table

10 milligrams (mg)	=1 centigram
10 centigrams	=1 decigram
10 decigrams	=1 gram (1 g=1,000 mg)
10 grams	=1 dekagram
10 dekagrams	=1 hectogram
10 hectograms	=1 kilogram (1 kg=1,000 g)
10 kilograms	=1 myriogram
10 myriograms	=1 quintal
10 quintals	=1 metric tonne (1 tonne=1000kg)

From Old Units to New Units

1 Tola	=11.66 grams
1 Chhatak	=58.32 "
1 Seer	=933.10 "
1 Maund	=37.32 kg.
1 Grain	=0.0648 gram
1 Ounce	=28.35 grams
1 Pound	=453.59 " =.45359 kg.
1 Quarter	=12.706 kg.
1 Handerweight	=50.80 kg.
1 Ton	=1016.05 kg.

From New Units to Old Units

1 Gram	=0.085735 tola =15.4324 grains =0.0352740 ounce
1 Kilogram	=1.07169 seer =2.20462 lbs.
1 Quintal	=2.67923 maunds =220.46 lbs.
1 Metric tonne	=26.7923 maunds =0.9842 ton

II LENGTH

Table

10 millimetres (mm)	=1 centimetre (cm)
10 centimetres	=1 decimetre
10 decimetres	=1 metre (1m=100 cms=1000 m m)
10 metres	=1 dekametre
10 dekametres	=1 hectometre
10 hectometres	=1 kilometre (1 km=1,000 m.)

From Old Units to New Units

1 inch	=2.54 cms. =25.4 mms. =0.0254 m.
1 foot	=30.48 cms. =0.3048 m.
1 yard	=91.44 cms. =0.9144 m.
1 furlong	=201.168 m.

1 mile	=1.609344 km. =1609.344 m.
1 chain	=20.1168 m.

From New Units to Old Units

1 mm.	=0.0394 inch
1 cm.	=0.393701 inch
1 decimetre	=3.937 inch
1 m.	=1.09361 yds. =3.28084 feet =39.3701 inches =0.0497097 chain =0.00497097 furlong
1 hectometre	=0.062173 mile
1 kilometre (km)	=0.62137 mile

III CAPACITY

Table

10 millilitres (ml)	=1 centilitre
10 centilitres	=1 decilitre
10 decilitres	=1 litre (1 L=1000 ml.)
10 litres (L)	=1 dekalitre
10 dekalitres	=1 hectolitre
10 hectolitres	=1 kilolitre

From Old Units to New Units

1 ounce	=28 ml (to the nearest ml.)
1 gill	=142 ml (—do—)
1 pint	=568 (—do—) =0.56825 (L)
1 quart	=1 litre and 136 ml. (—do—) =1.13649 (L)
1 gallon	=4.54596 (L)
1 liquid seer	=940 ml (to the nearest 10 ml)

From New Units to Old Units

1 litre	=1.75980 pints =0.87990 quart =0.219975 gallon =1.1 liquid seer—(Approx) =35 liquid ounces (—do—) =1000 028 cubic centimetres =85.735 tolas of pure water =61.025 cubic inches =1.000028 cubic decimetres
1 kilolitre	=1.000028 cubic metres

IV VOLUME

Table

1000 cubic millimetres	=1 cubic centimetre
1000 cubic centimetres	=1 cubic decimetre
1000 cubic decimetres	=1 cubic metre

From Old Units to New Units

1 cubic inch	=16.3871 cubic centimetres
1 cubic foot	=28.3168 cubic decimetres =28.316 litres
1 cubic yard	=0.76455 cubic metre
1 gallon	=0.00454609 cubic metre =4.5496 litres =4.54609 cubic decimetres
1 ounce	=28.4132 cubic centimetres
1 gill	=142.066 cubic centimetres
1 pint	=568.2440 cubic centimetres =0.56825 litre
1 quart	=1.1365 litres
1 litre	=1000.028 cubic centimetres =1.000028 cubic decimetres

From New Units to Old Units

1 cubic centimetre	=0.061024 cubic inch =0.0070390 gill =0.0351949 ounce
1 cubic decimetre	=0.0353147 cubic foot =0.219969 gallon =0 99997 litre
1 cubic metre	=35.315 cubic foot =1.30795 cubic yard =219.969 gallon =0.99997 kilolitre

V AREA

Table

100 square millimetres	=1 square centimetre
100 square centimetres	=1 square decimetre
100 square decimitres	=1 sq.metre(1 sq.m.=10,000 sq.cm.)
100 square metres	=1 are or 1 sq. dekametre
100 ares	=1 hectare of 1 sq. hectometre (1 hectare (ha)—10,000 sq. m.)
100 hectares	=1 square kilometre

From Old Units to New Units

1 sq. inch	=6.4516 sq. cm. =0.00064516 sq. m.
1 sq. foot	=929.03 sq. cm. =0.092903 sq. m. =9.2903 sq. decimetres
1 sq. yard	=0.83613 sq. metre =0.0083613 are
1 cent	=40.4686 sq. metres
1 sq. chain	=404.686 sq. metres
1 acres (4840 sq. Yds or 10 sq. chains)	=0.404686 hectare =40.4686 ares
1 sq. mile (640 acres)	=258.999 hectares =2.58999 sq. kilometres

From New Units to Old Units

1 square cm.	=0.155000 sq. inch
1 sq. metre	=1550.00 sq. inch =10.7639 sq. foot =1.19599 sq. yard
1 are	=119.599 sq. yard =0.0247105 acres
1 hectare	=2.47105 acres
1 sq. kilometre	=0.386101 sq. mile

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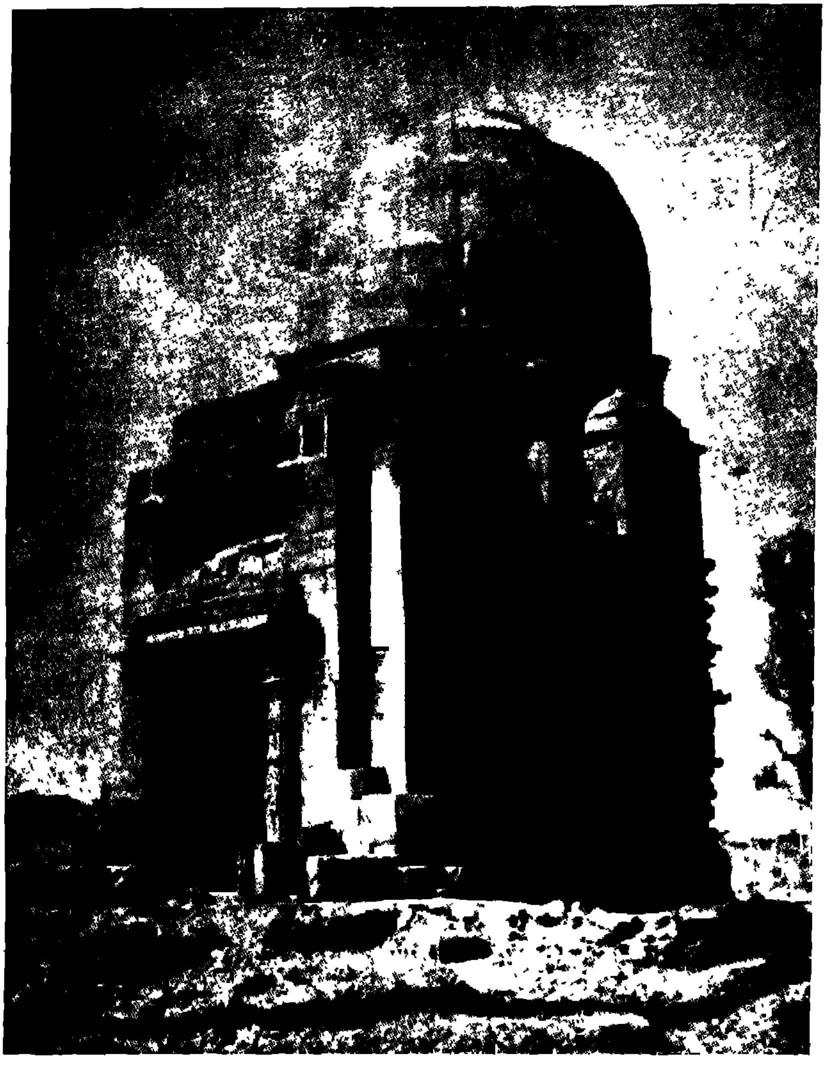
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54	33	Balakwar	Balakwada
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93	16	Act, were 25 and 24 persons were arrested of these	Act were 25, and 24 persons were arrested of whom
99	33	eclipes	eclipse
100	6	Navgarh	Navagraha
108	37	horrowing	harrowing
109	6	seedings	seedlings
	7	weeds	weeks
	21	years	ears
110	32	posts	pests
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166	27	improtation	importation
167	5	retial	retail
169	6	facitating	facilitating
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	12	groundnut-sold	groundnut are sold
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176	15	23°11'E	23°11' N
177	Footnote	Holkar	1. Holkar
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198	20	here	were
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	17	women-fold	women-folk
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256	1	csses	ceases
261	6	santion	sanction
283	21—22	Proorsecutors	Prosecutors
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295	9	Rajgarh	Rajpur
297	8	literary	literacy
298	6	bush	push
310	6	octrio	octroi
312	1	Committee	Committees
313	4	manificent	magnificent
323	1	Co-optde	Co-opted
332	2	poriod	period
361	7	vaccinations	vaccinators
362	32	Khatia	Khetia
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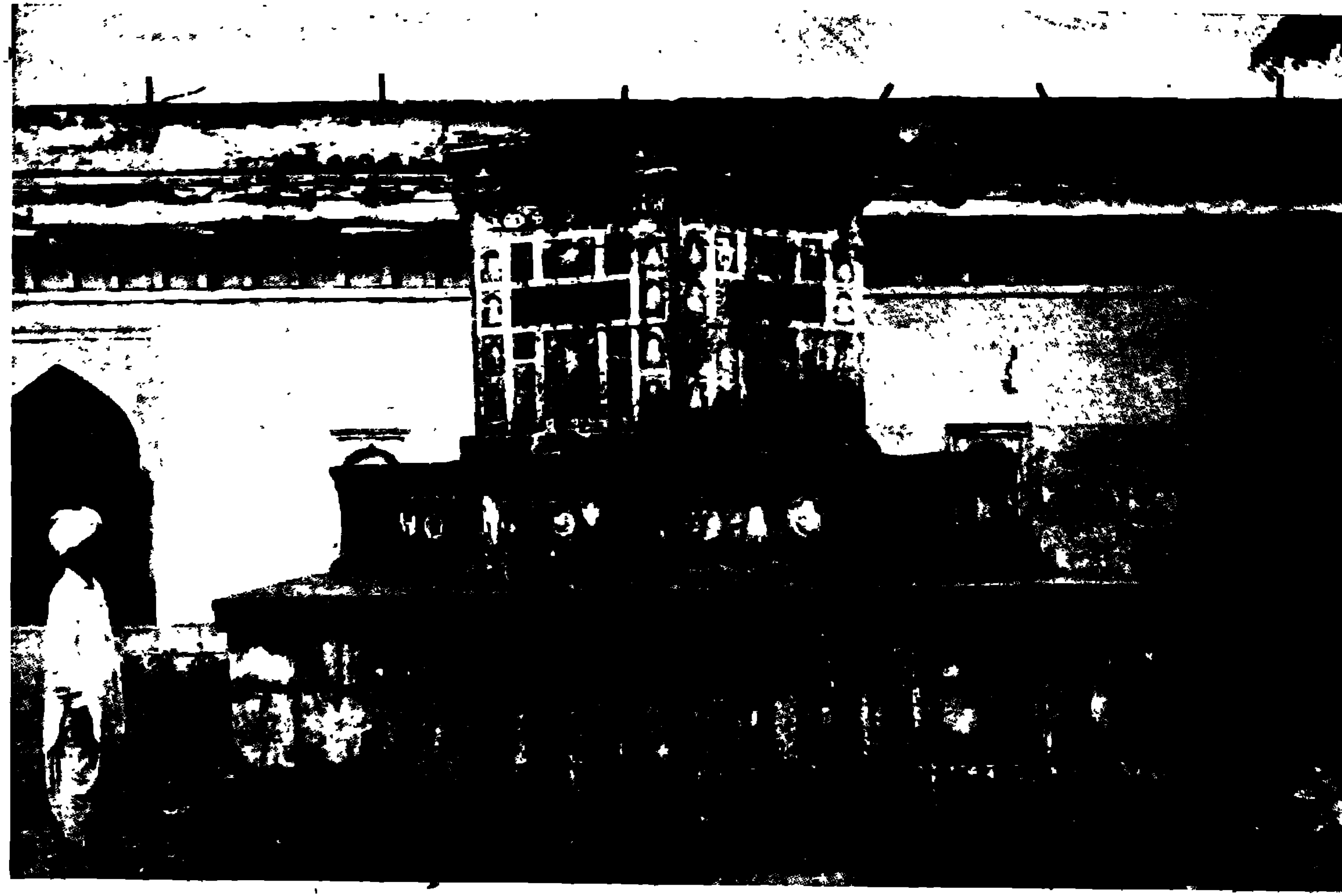
2. Neelkanteshwar Temple, Un



3. Ballaleshwar Temple, Un



4. Chaubaraderá Temple, Un



5. Samadhi of Peshwa Baji Rao I



6. Ahilya Devi's Chhatri, Maheshwar



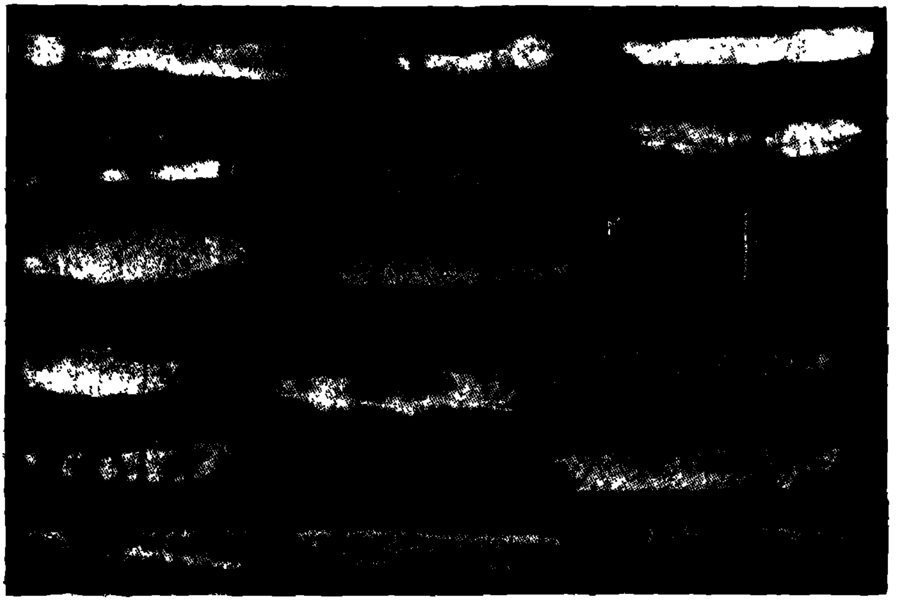
7. Kacheri of Ahilya Devi



8. Reconstructed Chalcolithic Village, Navdatoli (*crica* 1300 B. C.)



9. Plan of a round house with post-holes, Navdatoli



10. Blades of Chalcedony, Navdatoli



11. A Chalcolithic House with pots and walls *in situ*, Navdatoli



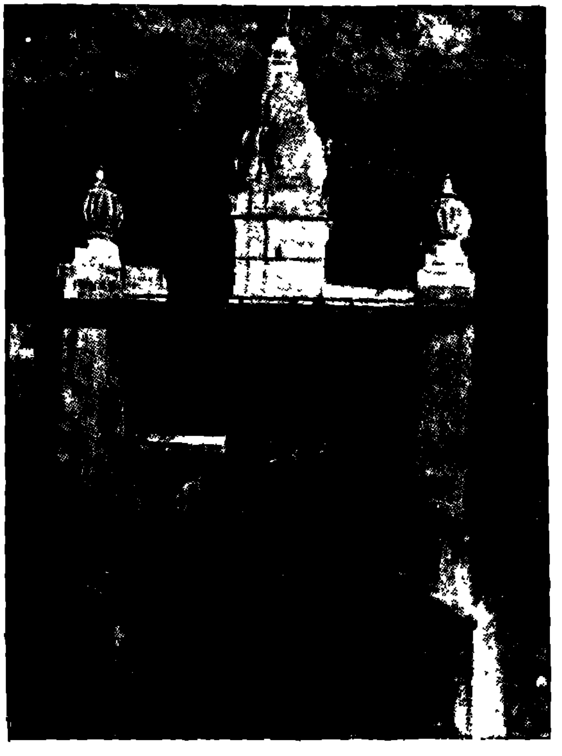
12. Pottery excavated at Navdatoli



13. Model Tribal Village, Ablai



14. Rajghat Bridge



15. Bawangajaji. near Barwani



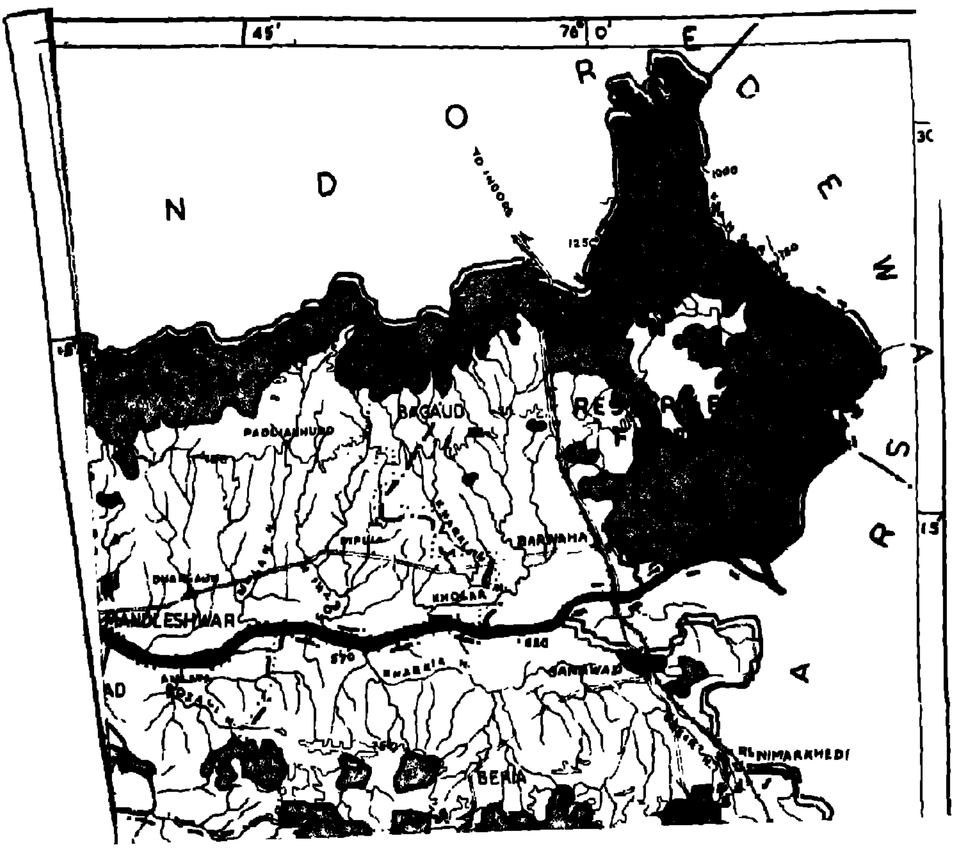
16. Famous Pappaya of Barwani



17. A Barela Tribal girl



18. A Nimari Bull


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